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11 Weekender

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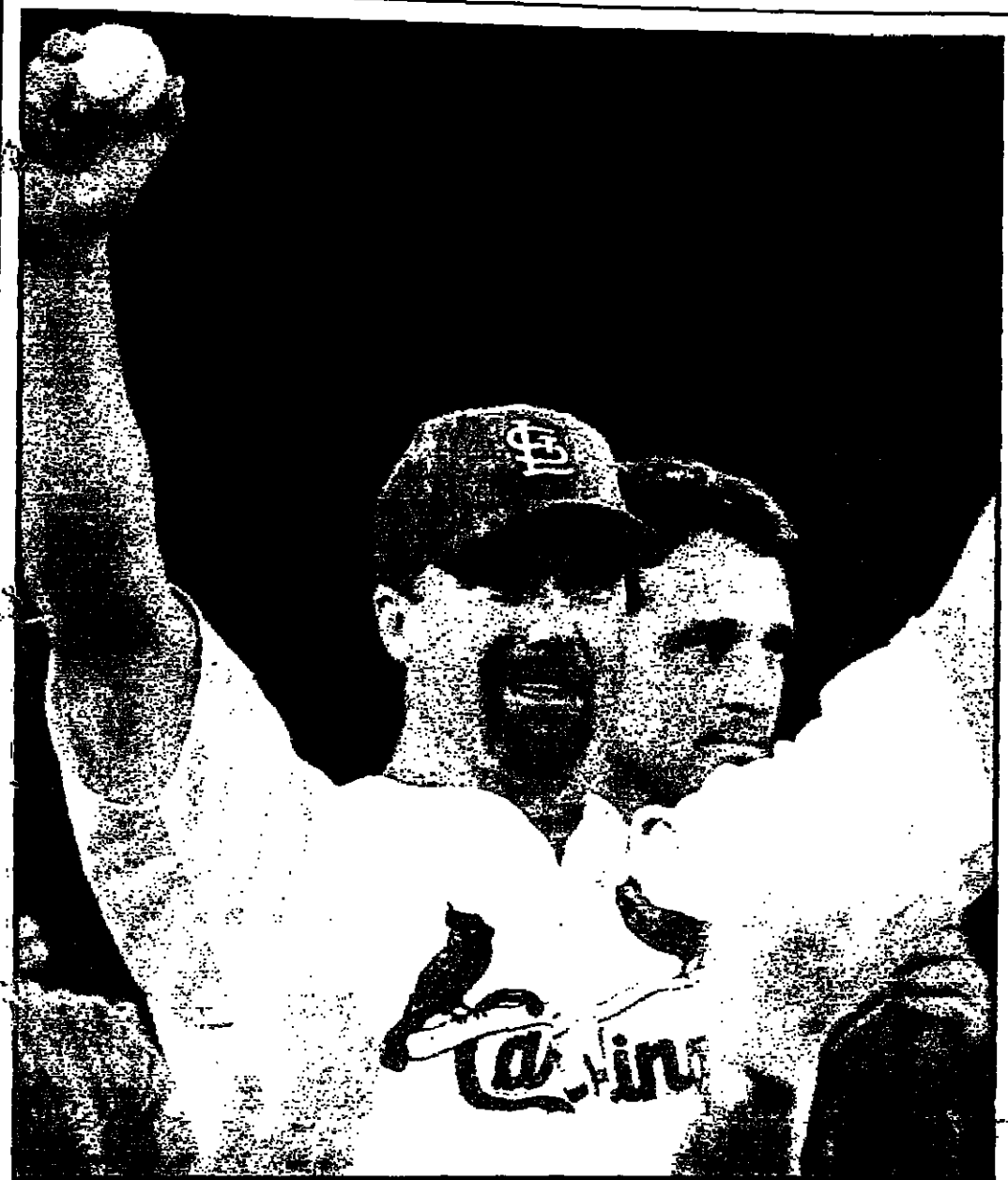


20 Sports

Murdoch buys Man. Utd. for \$1b.

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Mark McGwire of the St. Louis Cardinals celebrates on Tuesday in St. Louis after hitting his 62nd home run, breaking the record for most homers in a season. (Reuters)

McGwire: I did it

By BEN WALKER

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Even before his first swing in spring training, the questions started. Could the record be broken? Would he be the one to do it?

Mark McGwire, the man who seemed destined for home run history from the day he was born, answered them all Tuesday night. Homer No. 62 was a low liner

to left field, far from the monster moon shots he's hit all season. At 341 feet (104 meters), it was his shortest homer of the year.

No matter. Because the moment the ball barely cleared the wall, the St. Louis slugger had won the race to break one of the most recognizable records in American sports, a mark that Roger Maris held for 37 years.

"I have been talking about this

since January," said McGwire, who was born two years to the day after Maris hit his 61st in 1961. "I can honestly say I did it."

McGwire's solo home run in the fourth inning off Chicago Cubs pitcher Steve Trachsel capped a chase that began with his grand slam on opening day.

See RECORD, Page 18

Starr sends report on Clinton to Congress

Contains basis for possible impeachment — spokesman

By HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies

WASHINGTON — Washington braced itself for a potential avalanche, with yesterday's surprise delivery to Congress of the long-awaited report of independent counsel Kenneth Starr that could threaten the Clinton presidency and with it the chances of Democratic candidates in

reporters outside the House. Bakaly said Starr would not release any further information on the contents of the report and refused to give details about the grounds for impeachment.

However, Clinton's lawyer said there was no basis for impeachment in the information delivered to Congress by Starr.

Starr, without any advance warning, yesterday sent Congress his long-awaited report on a nearly eight-month investigation into allegations Clinton had an affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and tried to cover it up.

The report came less than one month after Clinton testified to a federal grand jury about his affair with Lewinsky.

Under the US Constitution, the House is responsible for begin-

ning any impeachment process to remove a sitting president from office.

The presentation of the Starr report occurred on an extraordinary day in which the president apologized yet again for his involvement with Lewinsky, this time to a group of House Democrats with whom he met at the White House, as well as to an audience in Florida later in the day.

It also occurred as House leaders of both parties met to discuss procedures for handling the Starr report. The House of Representatives is charged with determining whether to proceed with impeachment hearings against a president and the Senate conducts the hearings.

But the House has not yet laid out its options, ranging from impeachment to censure.

Speaking in Florida hours before

Starr sent Congress his report on the Lewinsky affair, Clinton asked for forgiveness and appealed for reconciliation.

"I let my family down and I let this country down, but I am trying to make it right," Clinton said at a fund-raising lunch in Orlando. "I am determined never to let anything like that happen again. I ask you for your understanding, for your forgiveness on this journey we are on. I hope this will be a time of reconciliation and healing."

Clinton's remarks were interrupted by applause from the audience of Democratic donors, who also gave him a standing ovation when he concluded his speech.

"These have been the toughest days of my life, but they may turn out to be the most valuable for me and my family," the president said. "I have no one to blame but myself for my self-inflicted wounds."

"But that's not what America is about and it doesn't take away from whether we are right or wrong on the issues or what we've done for the last six years or what this election is about," he said. "I am determined to redeem the trust of all the American people."



US President Bill Clinton (AP)

US turns up pressure for pullback

By STEVE RODAN, MOHAMMED NAJIB, and DANNA HARMAN

US peace envoy Dennis Ross met in Ramallah with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for three hours last night, as the US apparently put pressure on the PA to reach agreement with Israel on a further redeployment in the West Bank.

Just before he met with Ross, Arafat received a telephone call from US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright as part of what some officials term US pressure on the PA to finalize a deal.

PA sources said Albright and Arafat reviewed the latest Israeli proposals and discussed ideas to bridge the gap between Israeli and Palestinian positions.

The sources said Albright's call was not unexpected. They said the US secretary wants to visit the region to announce a withdrawal

agreement and has been pressing Arafat to be more flexible. Ross is due to hold talks with Prime Minister Binyamin

Netanyahu today, but Netanyahu's office said the meeting is "dependent on an improvement in the prime minister's health."

Netanyahu canceled a trip to Georgia yesterday due to the flu, and his doctor ordered him to rest for a day or two.

Ross said he had a "productive discussion" with Arafat, and is looking forward to meeting with Netanyahu today.

"The US initiative has always had many parts to it and one of the things that's important is to try and ensure that differences

that may remain between the parties as they relate to that initiative are worked out," Ross said. "The president and the secretary sent me out here to request of Chairman Arafat, and also to request of Prime Minister Netanyahu, to help narrow the differences that exist."

He added: "It's crucial for everybody concerned that we change the climate in this region, change the atmosphere in a way that trust is restored. When there's trust, we'll find that even the hardest issues can be solved, and without trust, we'll find that even the smallest issues become very difficult to solve."

Arafat did not speak with reporters, but Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat, who took part in the meeting with Ross, said afterwards that the Palestinians are still awaiting a positive response from Israel to the US peace initiative.

See PULLBACK, Page 2

Rain possible on Saturday

By DAVID RUDGE

After a burning August and a heat wave over the past few days, relief is on the way — with even the possibility of rain on Saturday, according to weather experts.

The duty forecaster at the Beit Dagan weather bureau said that temperatures — which yesterday

reached peaks of 43 degrees in the Jordan Valley, 35 in Jerusalem and 41 at Lod — were expected to drop by at least five degrees in hilly regions today.

A further drop is expected tomorrow, which, according to the forecaster, could lead to local showers in the North and Center of the country on Saturday and Sunday morning.

Zvi Alpers, director of the Israel Meteorological Service, said temperatures in the second part of July and throughout August were higher than normal. "What was exceptional was also the length of time that the temper-

atures remained at this higher-than-normal level," Alpers said. "This was the first time in 35 years that this happened."

Autumn officially starts on September 22, although the transitional period between summer and winter is characterized here by heat-wave conditions followed by cooler weather.

"The Persian trough, which is situated over the Eastern Mediterranean throughout the summer, is showing signs of weakening, which is an indication of a change, from the meteorological point of view, from summer to autumn," Alpers said.



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NEWS

in brief

Arad makes surprise trip to New York

Top political adviser Uzi Arad, who was expected to travel to Cairo yesterday to meet with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, suddenly changed his plans and flew to New York instead.

An announcement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office explaining that Arad would be doing advance work for Netanyahu's upcoming meetings at the UN General Assembly baffled the Foreign Ministry, where an entire department spends months preparing for the assembly. Netanyahu spokesman Aviv Bushinsky later clarified that Arad was in New York primarily to look into issues involving Iraq, but would not give details.

There was some speculation that Arad may be meeting with Scott Ritter, an American who recently quit the UN weapons inspection commission in Iraq. *Danna Harman*

Egypt slams Israeli-Turkish alliance

Egypt yesterday criticized military maneuvers planned by Israel and Turkey later this year as a dangerous exercise "directed toward Arabs."

"The matter is very dangerous when a non-Arab alliance is set up in the region because it appears directed toward Arabs," said Osama el-Baz, President Hosni Mubarak's top political adviser, at the presidential palace in Cairo.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa also criticized the maneuvers, calling them a "negative development." "It comes in the time we are trying to revive the peace process," Moussa said at a news conference with his Italian counterpart, Lamberto Dini. *AP*

UN Council cancels reviews of Iraq sanctions

The UN Security Council voted unanimously last night to suspend its regular reviews of Iraqi sanctions until Baghdad reverses its Aug. 5 decision to end intrusive arms inspections.

Without the reviews, conducted every 60 days, there is no hope of lifting or easing the embargoes, imposed in August 1990 after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait. *Reuters*

US mission in Beirut warns Americans

The US Embassy yesterday warned all Americans in Lebanon to take the "highest level of caution" after receiving information the embassy compound could come under an attack similar to recent bombings in Africa.

A US Embassy statement carried on Lebanon's official National News Agency did not refer to any specific threat against the compound, but warned Americans they could be in danger.

NNA said the US Embassy warning had been issued to all Americans living in Lebanon.

"The American Embassy in Beirut advised all Americans living in Lebanon to be cautious after the US government received information about the possibility of an attack against the embassy in Beirut similar to the attacks against the embassies in Africa," the statement said. *Reuters*

Suspected rapist's identity revealed

The ban on the identity of the "rapist from the South" was lifted yesterday by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court, following an appeal by journalists.

Ami Edri, 25, from Kiryat Malachi, is accused of raping, sodomizing, or molesting 14 women. Edri served as a deputy director-general of a non-profit organization. The publication ban on Edri's picture and other details is still in force.

Kiryat Malachi Mayor Shimon Moshe told Army Radio yesterday that Edri is a member of one of the town's most prominent families and said the town is in shock. Edri, he said, was very active in educational and cultural activities with the town's youth. *Amy Klein*

Moscowitz buying Tel Rumeida land denied

Reports that US millionaire Irving Moscowitz has offered a Palestinian woman in Tel Rumeida \$20 million for her home and land were denied by Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Amon yesterday. "I haven't heard any such thing and don't know of any such activities," he said.

Yesterday a Palestinian woman interviewed on Army Radio claimed she had been offered a change of identity, tickets abroad, and a sum of \$20m, to sell her home and land. The woman said she refused, saying, "I wouldn't sell my son, and I won't sell my land." *Margot Dukkevitch*

Austrian company readies for Jericho gamble

Austrian Ambassador Wolfgang Paul last night hosted a tea party with home-made pastries from Vienna's famous Cafe Demel at his official residence in Herzliya Pituah.

The event was sponsored by Casinos Austria, which is opening its Oasis casino in Jericho next week.

On hand to talk about both the pastries and the gaming was Oasis General Manager Alexander Tucek, who said he was not alarmed by threats of Islamic fundamentalists to destroy the casino.

Tucek termed the threats more "political" than actual, but said that security measures had been taken. *Greer Fay Cashman*

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Bomb kills 2 SLA soldiers

By DAVID RUDGE

Two South Lebanese Army soldiers were killed and two others were wounded in an Hizbullah roadside bomb attack in the security zone's eastern sector yesterday afternoon.

A short while later, IAF warplanes struck at Hizbullah targets in the eastern sector of south Lebanon. The IDF Spokesman said that the pilots had reported accurate hits and that the planes returned safely to their bases.

Reports from Lebanon said that one of the SLA casualties was a senior officer, although it was not made clear whether he had been killed or wounded.

According to the reports, Hizbullah gunmen detonated at least one explosive device alongside a SLA patrol near Kawkabeh in the zone's eastern sector.

One of the wounded was seriously hurt and after being treated in the field was evacuated by IAF helicopter to Safed's Rebecca

Sieff Hospital. He was reported to be suffering from shrapnel wounds to all parts of his body.

The other wounded soldier also was treated in the field and later taken to an hospital in the security zone.

Simultaneously, Hizbullah gunmen opened fire with mortars at a nearby SLA outpost. There were no casualties from the mortar attack and IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

Unconfirmed reports from Lebanon said three civilians had been wounded in the Marj al-Sahour region north of the zone as a result of the counter shelling.

The IAF strike yesterday brought to 86 the number of air raids on targets in Lebanon since the beginning of the year, following two against Hizbullah positions in the Jabal Soujud region on Tuesday. There were no reports of any casualties in yesterday's raids.

Hizbullah asks for UN help

By DAVID RUDGE

Hizbullah has for the first time officially asked the UN for assistance in obtaining the release of Lebanese held by Israel.

The move was seen by Lebanese security sources as an indication that the organization has something to offer in return, possibly concrete information regarding the fate of missing IAF navigator Ron Arad.

Hizbullah's request was relayed to UNIFIL's senior political adviser and the force's spokesman Timor Goksel in a meeting in Tyre yesterday with the head of the organization in the south, Sheikh Nabil Kaouk.

Goksel confirmed that the meeting, which he described as a regular occurrence, took place and that Kaouk had spoken about the subject of the Lebanese prisoners.

"Among other issues discussed, he [Kaouk] said he wanted to pass on an official request from his party that the UN should be more actively involved in helping to obtain the release of Lebanese held by Israel," said Goksel.

Neither UNIFIL nor the UN has been officially involved in any previous negotiations over exchanges between Israel and Hizbullah.

In the past, negotiations have been conducted through the auspices of third-party countries and emissaries, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

This included the recent deal in which some Lebanese held in Israel and the El Khayam jail in the security zone, as well as the bodies of gunmen, were released in exchange for the return to Israel of the body of missing naval commando 3PO Itamar Ily.

Lebanese security sources noted that the fact that Kaouk had made the request public after the meeting with Goksel could indicate that the organization was formulating a proposal for a new exchange deal.

Goksel himself said it was the first time that Hizbullah had "officially asked the UN to become involved in the issue of the Lebanese prisoners. The request will be relayed to UN headquarters, and I expect the next step would be to examine whether there are suitable or appropriate grounds to become involved."

PULLBACK

Continued from Page 1

"We hope that we will all seek the shortest road to revive the peace process and putting it back on track, and we hope that we can acquire a clear Israeli yes from Mr. Netanyahu to the American initiative," Erekat said, "because we believe any attempt to fragment the American package will only complicate matters."

A US official said yesterday that Ross's mission may be extended if progress is made toward a redeployment deal.

Arafat has called on the Clinton administration to release its plan for an Israeli withdrawal from 13.1 percent of the West Bank.

The sources said Arafat criticized Netanyahu's policies as dangerous for the peace process.

Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh



Another handshake

US peace envoy Dennis Ross (left) shakes hands with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Ramallah last night. Ross is to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu today. *(AP)*

Organizers of Oslo anniversary ceremony say they won't attack gov't

By HILLEL KUTTLER and DANNA HARMAN

WASHINGTON - Organizers of a commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Oslo signing said that they are not intending for it to take shots at the present Israeli government.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is concerned that the event will be a forum for criticizing his handling of the peace process. His communications advisor David Bar-Ilan said he hopes the organizers keep in mind all that the present government is doing, in its own way, to forward the peace process.

Other officials from Netanyahu's office expressed surprise and disappointment that Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk is participating in the

what they consider to be a politicized, left-wing affair.

Louis Roth, a spokesman for the Washington office of Americans for Peace Now, which organized the event, said: "The aim is: The groups and individuals backing this are supporters of Oslo and continued American involvement - period. There's no agenda beyond that as a coalition."

The ceremony will take place Sunday afternoon at a Washington synagogue.

Ambassador to the US Zalmay Shoval decided yesterday not to speak at the event. An embassy official said that the coalition's left-of-center composition is "not an issue" for Shoval, but that his schedule is too tight, with a speech to deliver at noon at a Tel Aviv

University luncheon and a briefing later in the day for an arriving Knesset delegation that is headed by Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Uzi Landau.

"The ambassador has received an invitation in the last several days," the embassy official said. "But he's not going to participate because of scheduling [issues]. The invitation came pretty late and he's got a pretty full schedule."

Indyk, Leah Rabin and former General Security Service official Yossi Ginosar already are slated to speak at the ceremony. Among the 24 sponsors are the Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist movements, Labor Zionist groups, Hashomer Hatza'ir and Hillel of Greater Washington.

B'tselem decries denial of water to Palestinians

By STEVE RODAN

The B'tselem human rights group yesterday accused the government of denying water to Palestinians in the West Bank. In a new report, B'tselem says the Mekorot national water company drastically cuts water to Palestinian communities during the summer to meet increased consumption in Israel and Jewish settlements in the territories.

The report, released yesterday, says the current water crisis in the territories is "based on an unfair division of resources shared by Israel and the Palestinians. Israel created a system of restrictions that prevents the Palestinians from utilizing water resources in a manner that meets their basic needs and population's birth rate."

The report says Israel has imposed obstacles to drilling new wells, established quotas on the water drawn from wells, expropriated wells owned by Palestinians, and has neglected to maintain water systems.

"Some Palestinian residents, mostly farmers, compound the problem by stealing water from the network supplying water to Palestinian towns and villages," the report acknowledges.

The report says Mekorot supplies an unlimited amount of water to Jewish settlements, while denying nearby Palestinian communities a sufficient amount. One result has been an increase in infectious diseases from the use of unclean water.

Defense officials who monitor the territories blasted the B'tselem report as politically motivated.

They said Israel has exceeded the amount of water required according to the Oslo agreements and that the PA has ignored Israeli proposals for cooperation regarding water and sewage. They said the PA has refused to operate water purification plants in Jenin and Hebron.

"B'tselem has an interesting method of operating," said Shlomo Dror, spokesman for the government coordinator in the territories, Maj.-Gen. Ya'acov Orr. "They first release the report and then ask us for our reaction. They come from the starting point that we are liars."

Jewish settlement leaders said many of their communities have experienced water shortages and stoppages this summer - some of it because of Palestinian sabotage of water pipes.



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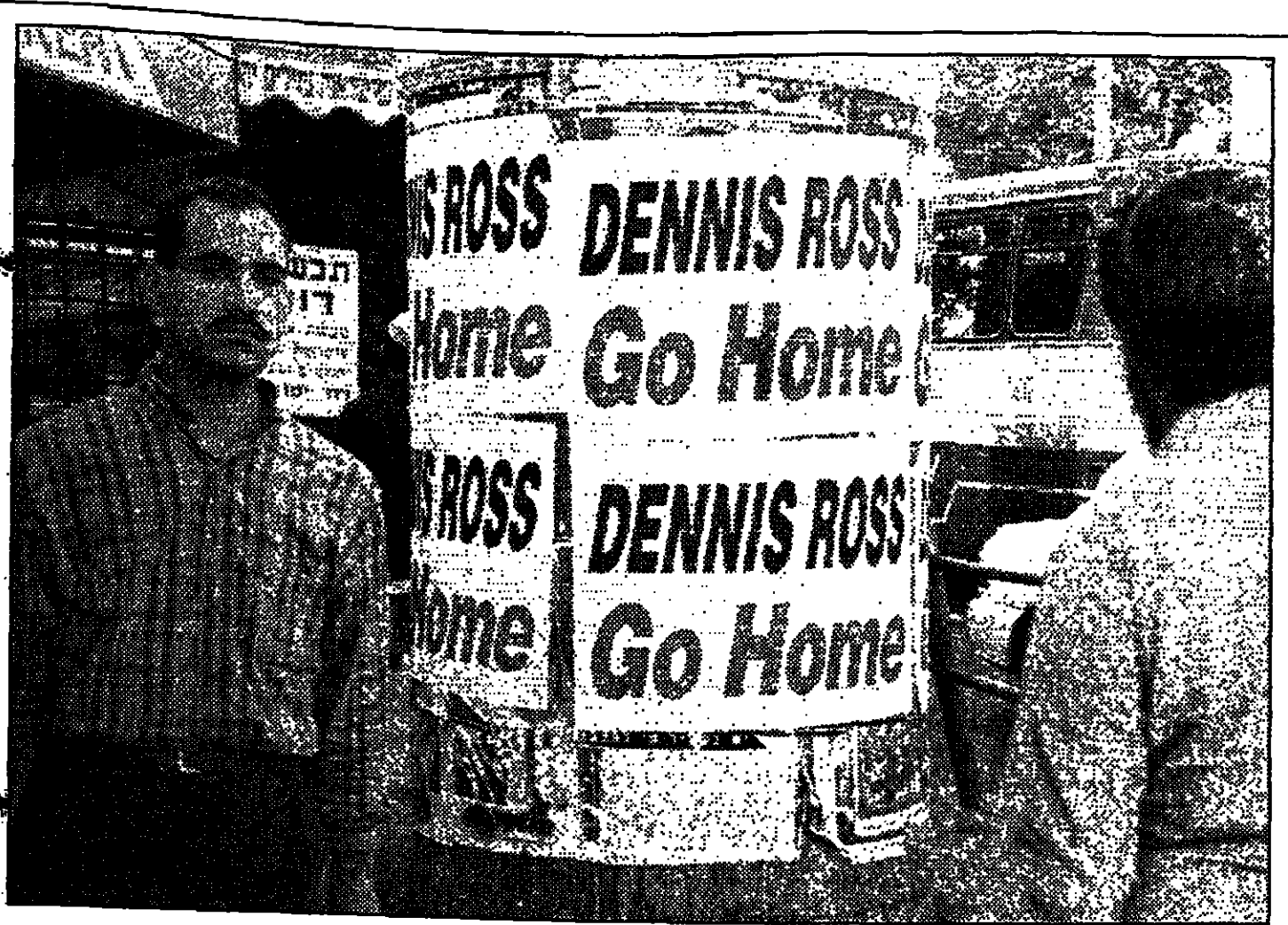
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A mixed welcome

A Palestinian man and an observant Jew yesterday walk past posters in downtown Jerusalem protesting against US peace envoy Dennis Ross's visit, which was to begin last night.

(Brian Hendler)

Premier's illness a healthy sign of democracy

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has been continually lambasted by his critics and the press - in many cases justifiably - for trying to do everything "the American way." For once, though, he deserves praise for Americanizing the way the public is informed about its leader's health. In declaring, without circumlocution or hesitation, that the prime minister has the flu, the public has finally been offered a positive lesson in "political health communication."

Why, then, did the media treat his "flu" with the quotation marks of a thinly disguised skepticism? Beyond the fact that by now virtually everything coming out of the Prime Minister's Office is viewed with skepticism, if not outright hostility, Israeli journalists have been trained to leave the health of the country's leaders out of the

COMMENT

By DANNA HARMAN

Golda Meir's bouts with cancer (both in and after leaving office) were not mentioned. Even more serious was the conspiracy of silence (or at best, subtly nuanced hints) regarding prime minister Menachem Begin's ongoing depression, which rendered him unfit for office in the year before his resignation.

The public discussion four years ago surrounding then chief-of-staff designate Amnon Lipkin-Shahak's fight against cancer was the first sign that things were changing - though at the time he had not yet taken up the post.

Now comes Netanyahu's flu.

Nothing really serious, and yet he didn't hesitate to communicate his condition to the public. After their initial suspicions on Tuesday night, the media turned the flu item into a news extravaganza.

Admittedly, the coverage was overdone (when have the media ever been able to keep matters in perspective?), but all the same it was a healthy sign that everyone concerned - public, politicians, and journalists - are getting over the "health taboo." The next time a very senior leader is seriously ill, the present precedent should make it easier to come to grips with the "political health" problem at hand.

The writer is coordinator of the mass communications program in Bar-Ilan University's Department of Political Studies and is chairman of the Israel Association of Political Science.

Georgians celebrate despite PM's cancellation

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The Jewish community of Georgia was deeply disappointed by the cancellation of the prime minister's visit to Tbilisi yesterday, but nonetheless pressed on with celebrations marking the community's 2,600th anniversary.

Haim Chessler, co-chairman of the Jewish Agency's Department of Immigration and Absorption, who previously headed the agency's activities in the CIS, said by phone from Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, that while there was disappointment among the country's 10,000 Jews and government authorities, "the overall feeling is the show must go on."

Chessler, speaking just moments before Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze entered the Jewish community's main synagogue in Tbilisi for a

ceremony, said: "Obviously the people are upset, but the show will go on and the very fact that the president is coming [is very important to them]. Obviously, they had expected the prime minister for a long, long time, and they were very upset."

"They're not angry, because they heard he's sick, but obviously the expectation was very high and they were very happy he was coming, even with his heavy schedule. I know the prime minister spoke to Shevardnadze this morning and sent his apologies."

The events were to include several days of festivities in both the capital and other cities in Georgia, with a major reception yesterday evening at a large Tbilisi restaurant, where Shevardnadze was to speak. Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav was scheduled to "fill in" for Netanyahu at the reception.

clear. Today it became clear that he is suffering from influenza," Keren said.

Reporters were already on board Netanyahu's plane at Ben-Gurion airport when his spokesman, Aviv Bushinsky, told them the trip to Georgia was off.

Sara Netanyahu told Army Radio that it was very unusual to see her husband succumb to illness but that it "happens to everyone, at some point."

Asked whether it was true Netanyahu fell asleep during Minister of Health Yehoshua Matza's presentation during the budget debate, Sara answered she had not heard about that, but thought it likely.

The prime minister, who cut short the budget debate Tuesday, had been scheduled to be guest of honor in Tbilisi, Georgia for celebrations marking the Jewish community's 2,600th anniversary.

Netanyahu phoned Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze and apologized for the cancellation, Bushinsky said.

Netanyahu's illness became the center of a feverish exchange of barbs between opposition and coalition yesterday.

Following the lead of certain cab-

inet ministers, who called Netanyahu's situation "a political illness," Labor put out a statement describing the prime minister as "a virtual patient."

"Labor acknowledges that Netanyahu is ill. He is ill from his inability to advance the peace process, ill from his inability to pass the budget in his cabinet and ill from his failures," Labor's spokesman said.

"Labor wishes the prime minister a speedy recovery from all his illnesses," he added.

The spokesman said Labor MKs are wondering why Netanyahu found it so difficult to persuade the public of the veracity of his getting the flu, that he found it necessary to send to the media his wife, his personal physician, his bureau chief and the director-general of his office.

Meretz leader MK Yossi Sarid said he believes the prime minister is really sick. "He is not a virtual patient and the sickness is not political," Sarid said.

"But this is what happens to a man who is so constant in his lies. Nobody believes him anymore," Sarid said. "This time, when he's telling the truth, even those close to him find it hard to believe him."

Ra'an Cohen: Potential immigrants put off by political climate

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Russian Jews are concerned about the possibility of war in Israel and will not make aliyah unless there is significant progress in the peace process with the Palestinians, Labor secretary-general Ra'an Cohen, who is visiting Moscow, said yesterday.

"The atmosphere in Russia is tense, there is a sense of uncertainty and danger. The future is unclear and the public is hoarding food, of which there's a shortage in the towns and villages," the Russian Parliament's Upper House chairman, Igor Soteyev, told Cohen yesterday.

Cohen, who is attending the 100th General Conference of the Interparliamentary Union in Moscow, met the Russian leadership, leaders of the Jewish community and the chief rabbi of Moscow, Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt.

Goldschmidt told Cohen many Russian Jews want to come to Israel and yearn for there to be peace here. However, in view of the unstable situation vis-a-vis the peace process, they are consider-

ing emigrating to the US or Europe, he said.

At the conference, Cohen called on Syrian President Hafez Assad and his representatives to the conference to visit Israel and see how interested the Israeli public is in peace with Syria.

During Cohen and Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon's meeting with Soteyev, their host said he is praying for the day a member of the coalition and a member of the opposition in Russia can appear together and represent their country as the Israeli delegates are doing.

Today Cohen is scheduled to visit the Israeli Embassy in Moscow and the Jewish Agency headquarters there and meet potential new immigrants and Jewish Agency officials.

Defense team laid up by Chinese bug

Nearly everyone who went to China with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai last week has been laid up by a parasite, which they apparently contracted from drinking the water.

Mordechai and his wife, Kochi, were sick with fever and stomach cramps over the weekend, as were ministry Director-General Ilan Biran, Sibot defense export chief Yossi Ben-Hanan, and Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu.

The delegation was apparently infected during a water break halfway up the 1,400 steps of the Great Wall of China, when they drank contaminated tap water sold to them in unsealed bottles by local peasants claiming it was mineral water. Arieh O'Sullivan

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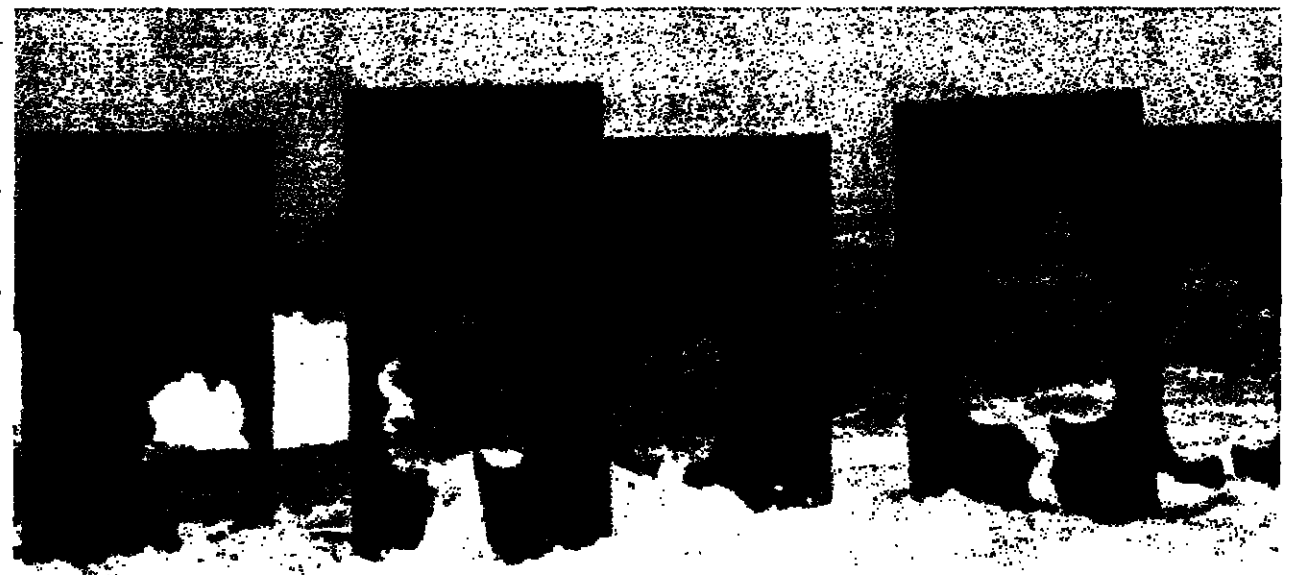
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A winning shot

Betar Jerusalem soccer player Yossi Abuksis gets vaccinated against hepatitis A with his teammates yesterday at Teddy Stadium as part of a public campaign against both hepatitis A and B by the Israel Pediatricians Association and the Israel Family Doctors Association. (Brian Hendler)

PM blasts increased PA activity in Jerusalem

By AMY KLEIN

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday condemned heightened activity of the Palestinian Authority in Jerusalem, as detailed by a security report commissioned by the Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem.

The report found that 20 Palestinian institutions connected to the PA are located in Jerusalem and are operating against the law.

"The government sees this activity as an explicit violation of the Oslo agreements. According to the agreements, the PA cannot have any jurisdiction in Jerusalem," said Avigdor Bushinsky, the prime minister's spokesman. "The prime minister also raised this issue in his discussions with the Americans and the Palestinians," he added.

The PA is influential in the operations of the Wakf (the Muslim religious trust) the report said, paying supplementary income to Wakf security workers and increasing the power of

PA workers in the Wakf.

The report listed 11 Palestinian ministries operating illegally in Jerusalem, including the Ministry for Jerusalem Affairs in Orient House, which is run by PA Minister for Palestinian Affairs Faisal Hussein. The ministry functions as a base for Palestinian activities in the city, organizing protests and press conferences, raising funds, and purchasing Jerusalem real estate on behalf of the PA, the report said.

It also said the PA Ministry of Education has taken control of the private educational system in eastern Jerusalem, which serves nearly half of the city's Arab pupils. Schools run by the Wakf, the Christian churches, and UNRWA operate with special permits issued by the PA ministry and use curricula, books, and tests prepared by it.

The Palestinian Legislative Council recently approved the "First Palestinian Curriculum," which will likely be introduced into schools run by the PA Education Ministry.

The report found that the PA works to purchase land in Jerusalem and to rescue land from being purchased by Jews.

Palestinian security agents conduct a range of activities in Jerusalem which include detentions, intelligence-gathering, criminal investigations, and enforcing orders and instructions issued by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, the report said.

"It is responsibility of the police to enforce the law against these Palestinian institutions," Bushinsky said.

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said that Palestinian Police activity has decreased over the last 12 months in the capital and that the Israel Police has arrested dozens of PA security agents.

"The police are constantly working to prevent illegal PA activity in Jerusalem," he said.

Under the terms of the Oslo agreement signed on September 28, 1995, the PA's jurisdiction does not include Jerusalem.

Wilk blames PA police for lack of cooperation

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Police Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk criticized the Palestinian police yesterday, charging that while channels of dialogue remain open there is no cooperation between the two sides.

He termed this a serious infringement of the Oslo Accords.

Due to this situation, he said, Israel police are forced to operate in some West Bank locales instead of their Palestinian counterparts, including villages or towns where the Palestinian Police have stations.

He cited the wave of car thefts, with the thieves, chop shops and stolen cars and parts often found in villages where the Palestinian police have a station but ignore what happens.

"If they really wanted to assist in quelling car theft that has reached

tremendous proportions, they would act," he said.

Wilk visited the 200-strong Hebron police force yesterday for the second time since being appointed, to show support for the forces there.

"It's not easy being a policeman in Hebron," he said, adding that meeting with the policemen gave him the opportunity to listen to their grievances.

"They are an extremely good bunch of men and know how to separate their personal feelings from their professional ones, despite being verbally assaulted and having eggs thrown at them by some of the Jewish residents in Hebron," Wilk said.

He stressed that the recent violent incidents since the murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anah have been unfortunate, especially as they are

carried out by a small bunch of extremists who besmirch the entire community.

The police, he said, would use everything in their power to clamp down on extremists who incite to violence. The perpetrators are usually from the same bunch, he said.

Noam Amon, spokesman for the Hebron Jewish community, said it is regrettable that Wilk had not bothered to meet the settlers and hear their complaints regarding what he termed the brutal actions of several policemen.

"While we don't condone the recent events you have to realize what caused them and understand the frustration people feel when they see that the police don't do anything to the Palestinians who throw stones and firebombs and turn a blind eye. Wilk is partly to blame for allowing this situation."

High Court to hear ACRI petition on shaking

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR

The High Court of Justice today will hear a petition from the Public Committee Against Torture for the interrogators of Abdel-Samed Harizat, who died in Jerusalem's Russian Compound GSS facility in May 1995, to be put on trial.

On the last day of his life, Harizat was allegedly "shaken" by his interrogators 12 times. In the wake of his death, the committee petitioned the court.

Harizat was first held by the front lapels of his shirt, which is permitted by the GSS, according to the petition that advocate Avigdor Feldman presented on behalf of the committee. Then, the petition said, he was twice shaken by the shoulders, which is not permitted. The interrogators stopped

when they saw Harizat was breathing with difficulty and he died shortly afterwards in a hospital, the petition said.

The Jerusalem District Court has ruled that one of the interrogators should receive a warning, but then-attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair did not bring the interrogators to trial, the petition added. This, Feldman said in the petition, is "extremely untenable."

Committee chairperson Hannah Freedman said yesterday that, in cases where there had been irreversible physical or mental damage, interrogators should not be allowed to enjoy immunity.

On a related topic, the Association for Civil Rights in Israel has requested that the High Court of Justice fix a date for additional hearings on its petition to

prevent the GSS from "shaking" people under interrogation.

The request follows media reports that the prime minister has decided to freeze the legal process which was to have regulated the use of force by the security services. ACRI's legal adviser Dan Yair said. He pointed out that almost four months had passed since the court held its last session on the subject.

An expanded nine-member bench had decided to hear a number of petitions with regard to GSS interrogation methods, including one from ACRI. The hearings were postponed to allow the state to complete legislation on the GSS and to allow it to express its views on "shaking" suspects.

In its original petition, ACRI mentioned the case of Harizat, where "shaking" led to death.

Dogs, cats must get rabies shot

By JUDY SIEGEL

A new regulation that will require dog and cat owners to have their pets vaccinated against rabies and an identifying microchip inserted under their skin was received yesterday with approval by veterinarians and protest by some cat owners.

Until now, nearly 90,000 dogs have had such a chip inserted due to municipal by-laws in about 50 local authorities, according to Agriculture Ministry chief veterinarian Amon Shimshony.

But it will now become mandatory for pet dogs in the whole country, and a one-year experiment for cats - except for those

that never leave home.

Israel has apparently become the first country in the world to require dogs and cats to have an identifying chip in their bodies, Shimshony said.

This is due, in no small measure, to the increasing number of rabies cases - and the general public's panic over the deaths of two people in recent years from the virus.

In 1997 alone, 5,000 Israelis who suffered bites or scratches from various types of mammals underwent rabies vaccination - compared to 30,000 in the whole of Europe. So far this year there have been eight cases of proven rabies in dogs and three in cats, and in 1996,

400 people scratched or bitten by cats were given shots of the very expensive vaccine.

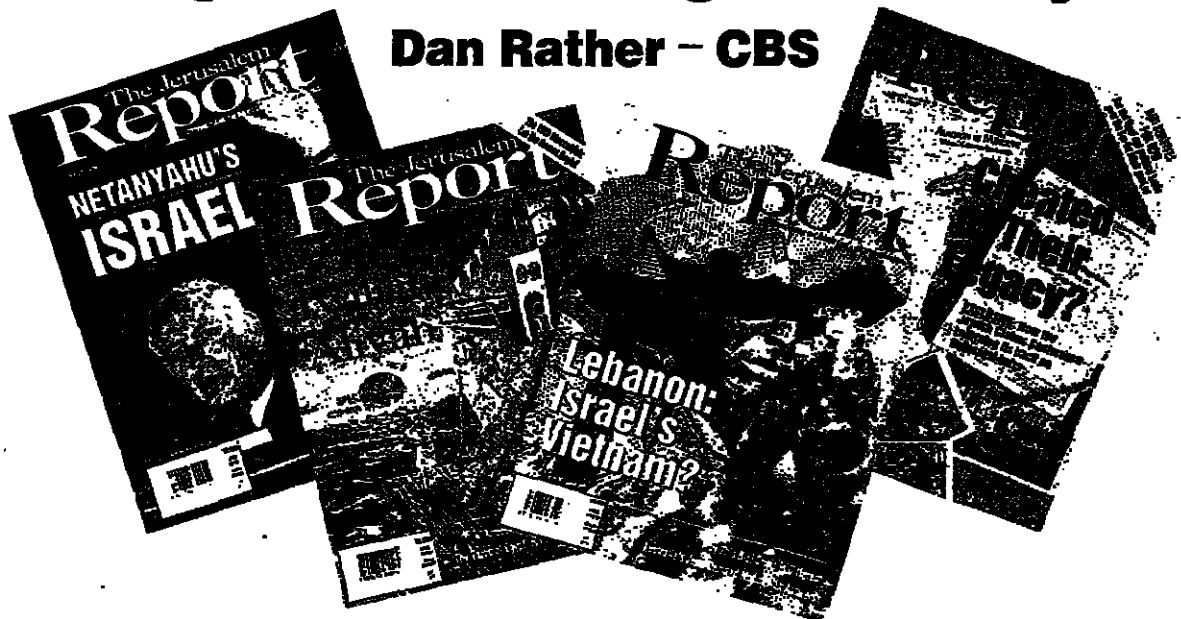
Rivli Mayer, the owner of 20 cats and a leader of the Cat Welfare Association, voiced her disapproval of the new regulation.

"It will be very expensive to pay for microchips, especially for people with several pets. People will think twice before they do it. What is wrong with having an identifying collar on the animal. In any case, we know of cases in which the microchip wanders inside the body and in which readers aren't sensitive to all chips. The implantation of chips should be optional. We're in favor of vaccination, however."

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On advice from Attorney-General Rubinstein Milo declines to perform marriage

When Galit Lissner and Nir Asulin showed up at Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo's office yesterday, with Lissner's wedding gown, for a rehearsal of their wedding ceremony, Milo told them he had changed his mind and would not officiate. The couple is to marry at 8 tonight in a civil ceremony on the steps of the Tel Aviv Cinematheque during a fair on alternative weddings.

Shulamit Aloni, a former Meretz leader and minister, will replace Milo. Milo said he decided not to perform the wedding after being asked not to do so by Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein. He had been asked to wed the couple in a civil ceremony in his capacity as mayor. "I am sorry that I won't be able to perform the ceremony. The reason is not technical. The attorney-general requested that I not perform the ceremony, even though it does not violate the law. The attorney-general said that this was liable to divide the city's residents," Milo explained. "I accepted his recommendation."

Despite his decision, Milo emphasized that, "I am for everyone being able to live the way he wants."

Milo added that if his bid for the premiership is successful he will take steps to enact laws allowing everyone to be married in the ceremony of his or her choice.

Lissner, 27, and Asulin, 29, expressed disappointment, suggesting that Milo had caved in to political pressure.

"I'm disappointed. I believe that Ronni Milo is thinking about his political future and needs to make coalition agreements with the religious," said Lissner, a drama therapy



Galit Lissner and Nir Asulin embrace yesterday as TA Mayor Ronni Milo, who will not be marrying them, looks on. (Eyal Leshem/Israel Sun)

student from Ramat Hasharon who met Asulin, an environmental studies student from Dimona, a year ago.

Hemdat, the Council for Freedom of Science, Religion, and Culture in Israel, sharply con-

demned Milo's decision not to perform the wedding at the alternative wedding fair, which it is sponsoring at the Cinematheque today and tomorrow.

"I'm in shock. The matter was agreed on about two months ago

and it is clear that Milo was under political pressure," Hemdat head Zamira Segev said. "There is no law or anything else preventing this ceremony from being carried out. Ceremonies like this happen in Israel every day."

Milo originally suggested that mayoral candidate Dan Darin replace him, but the couple rejected the idea.

"We don't want the person who marries us to reap political gains," they explained. (Itim)

Burg upset after students kicked out of immigrant study program

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN and Itim

Eleven youngsters participating in the Education Ministry's Na'aleh program for young immigrants had their return tickets to Israel taken away from them at Ben-Gurion Airport and were then told they would not be returning, according to an angry letter Jewish Agency chairman Avraham Burg sent to Education Minister Yitzhak Levy yesterday.

Burg also noted that only 29.3 percent of the applicants to the program were accepted and said "many problems that have arisen over the past year have put in question our ability to continue to be identified with and participate in this program."

The Na'aleh program is aimed at high school pupils who immigrate before their parents and study at Israeli educational institutions for two years, returning to their home countries during summer break for a visit.

Burg was particularly incensed over the return of participants to the CIS after they were found unsuitable to continue in the program.

He said that while agreement had been reached on the proper way of handling such problems, there had been several violations of the guidelines.

These included the program's administrators deciding to kick 14

participants out of the program during their summer vacation in the CIS. Burg said the move angered the youngsters' home communities, and the youngsters "had simply been told at the last minute that their trip home would be one way."

According to Burg, the 11 others who had their return tickets taken away did not even have a chance to take their personal belongings and documents with them from their schools.

He also said that 18 youngsters were only told a week before they were supposed to leave for Israel that they had not been accepted.

The youngsters had not registered for school in their area, Burg said, asking that Levy urgently look into his charges.

Yesterday there were also media reports that the Education Ministry planned on stiffening criteria for acceptance into the program, so as to reduce the number of non-Jews accepted into it.

This prompted an angry response from former Education Minister MK Amnon Rubinstein, who said such a move is very dangerous.

Rubinstein said the decision violates the Law of Return, creates official discrimination between those who are Jewish according to Halacha and those eligible to come here under the Law of Return, and sends a message of

rejection to tens of thousands who want to immigrate.

Yohanan Ben-Ya'acov, who heads the ministry's absorption and immigration department, said Levy had already instructed ministry staff to look into the two incidents cited by Burg.

Ben-Ya'acov disputed Burg's figures regarding the percentage of candidates accepted into the program, saying the figures were incorrect.

He said that of 2,550 candidates who showed up to be tested for the program, 1,050 turned out to be either too young or too old for it, and were told to look into other existing programs suitable for their age groups. About 750 students participate in the program.

While he denied the criteria for acceptance were being made more stringent to keep out non-Jews, he said the murder of a counselor at a Rishon LeZion boarding school by a participant in a Na'aleh program had an impact on the program.

He added that while non-Jews were not being turned away from the program, and criteria for acceptance have not been hardened, the ministry does try to ensure that those accepted into the program "at least show some interest in belonging to the Jewish people," and not just entry into a more Western society, via a program offering free education.

Embarrassed by Ichilov disclosure Ministry issues regulations for hospital cameras

By JUDY SEGEL

The Health Ministry yesterday issued directives to medical facilities on how and where to install video cameras if they are needed for patient security and prevention of theft and vandalism.

The instructions were released 24 hours after the ministry asked the Israel Police to open an investigation into disclosures by Yediot Aharanot that someone had changed the position of the video camera in an Ichilov Hospital ultrasound room to view partially clothed patients.

The ministry had never previously issued directives relating to the placing of video cameras in medical facilities — even though it is responsible for enforcing the Patients' Rights Law, which ensures patients' privacy.

According to the new rules, cameras can be used to monitor entrances and public areas and to deal with violent incidents, as well as provide evidence for investigations and prevent theft

of equipment and vandalism. The placing of visible cameras now has to be approved — in advance — by the hospital administrative director, while hidden cameras must be okayed by the hospital's medical director himself.

Most of the closed-circuit TVs, said ministry chief security officer Reuven Keren, will be visible. They can be hidden in order to prevent damage to them, but only if a sign is posted to inform passersby that the area is under surveillance.

Video cameras, said Keren, may not be installed in places that would violate the privacy of patients, workers or visitors, such as wards, treatment and examination rooms, changing rooms, toilets and showers.

Tapes must be stored carefully to ensure privacy, or alternatively, they must be erased as soon as their use for security purposes is concluded; all activities must be documented in writing. The ministry declared that under no circumstances may voices be recorded.

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NEWS

in brief

Israel sends rabbi to confirm Swissair deaths

The Israel Police has sent a rabbi from its criminal identification unit to help confirm the deaths of Jewish victims in last week's Swissair crash off Canada, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

Under Jewish law, a widow may not remarry until it is proven beyond a doubt that her husband died. US Orthodox leaders asked the Israel Police for the services of an officer and rabbi to ensure that none of the women widowed in the September 2 crash be considered *agunot*, or unable to remarry.

Rabbi Jay Levinson will interview those who last saw the Jewish victims and then testify before rabbinical courts, just as he has done many times in Israel and in the aftermath of the crash of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland in 1988 that killed 270 people. AP

Afula schools shut for second straight day

The Afula city council and the parents association again shut down schools in Afula, leaving 12,000 students at home for the second straight day.

The two groups are protesting large funding cuts made by the Education Ministry and that nursery school will cost parents NIS 600 a month per child.

The parents association is expected to meet soon to decide whether to end the strikes and open talks with the ministry, or to continue the strikes while attempting to open contact with the ministry simultaneously. Itim

Toddler left behind in duty-free store

The empty seat revealed what the security check had not: the toddler was missing! A local couple had forgotten their two-and-a-half-year-old daughter during a shopping spree last week at Ben-Gurion Airport's duty free stores, El Al spokesman Nachman Klieman said yesterday.

Only once the couple had boarded the plane, along with four other children, did they realize they were one kid short. The parents alerted a flight attendant, who messaged a description of the girl to the terminal. An El Al ground hostess found the girl within 10 minutes, asleep in her stroller, where her older brother had left her while he browsed through a shoe store. The family was reunited in time to leave on schedule for its holiday in Paris. AP

Jerusalem artichoke helps make sweetener

Dutch researchers say they have genetically engineered sugar beets to make a natural low-calorie sweetener instead of sugar. They say adding a gene from the Jerusalem artichoke helps make beets produce fructan, a type of sugar that is hard to digest and which thus inflicts fewer calories.

Sief Smeekens of the Institute of Molecular Plant Sciences at Leiden University in the Netherlands and colleagues reported their findings in the September issue of the journal *Nature Biotechnology*. Jerusalem artichokes, knobby roots that are small, irregularly shaped and hard to process, are not good sources for commercial sugar makers. But beets have been used for many years to make sugar. Reuters

Hassidic woman sues NYPD for rape

A Hassidic woman in Brooklyn is filing a \$100 million federal civil rights suit against the New York City Police Department, charging that she was sexually assaulted by two officers in 1994, her lawyer said yesterday.

The woman was 17 when she said she was lured into a police car in Borough Park and sodomized. She has since been receiving psychiatric treatment and is unable to work, according to attorney Ruth Liebesman.

The attack was reported but covered up to avoid embarrassing the police, said Liebesman. The suit also seeks the arrest of the two officers and a federal investigation of the affair. There was no immediate comment from the city. Marilyn Henry

\$500,000 asked for Anne Frank diary pages

The Anne Frank researcher holding five newly discovered pages of her famed diary will turn them over to Dutch scholars for free if he can't find a buyer in a year, a friend said yesterday. Melissa Muller, author of a new biography of Frank, said that Cor Suijk is holding out for \$500,000 for the New York-based Anne Frank Center USA, where he works as international director. AP

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Why, Why, Why?

Three topics for this week: Why is Saddam there, why did Scott Ritter resign, and why is the Israel-Turkey alliance not everywhere?

I. Why is Saddam There?
Former US president George Bush, in his recent book on his term in the White House, gives the inside story on why he didn't help get rid of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein at the end of the Kuwait war in 1991. Unfortunately, he can give no better reasons than the bad ones dispensed by his administration back then.

In short, Bush explains that the US did not want to occupy Iraq for a long time, incurring high costs, heavy casualties, and immense political problems. The former US chief executive and those around him still don't get it, and that's a great tragedy which continues to cost the Middle East dearly.

There was absolutely no need for American troops to march into Baghdad and take over the country. All they needed to do was to keep the war going, even at a lower level of activity, until Iraq's elite understood that it must get rid of Saddam to survive.

American forces could have used air power, without advancing much further or incurring many casualties. Equally, the Kurdish and Shi'a revolts against the central government would have scared the Iraqi generals into eliminating the dictator. These groups would also have had a good bargaining position from which to improve their treatment by the central government.

Bush's failure to see Saddam removed, his massive miscalculation, and his literal betrayal of the Kurds – costing thousands of lives and making one million people into refugees – were disgraceful acts which should forever mark the record of Bush and everyone responsible for those decisions.

II. Why Isn't Scott Ritter There?
UN Weapons Inspector Scott Ritter resigned last week to protest that US policy no longer supported the team's work.

Apparently, the Clinton administration has chosen to try maintaining sanctions while avoiding any confrontation with Iraq.

In other words, Washington will not act decisively if Iraq threatens or stops inspections, but will fight to keep UN-mandated restrictions on Iraq.

Ritter revealed the inspectors' hitherto secret assessment of precisely what Iraq still has regarding weapons of mass destruction in a September 4 talk at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

According to Ritter, Iraq retains and is hiding all necessary com-

ponents except – an important exception – “the fissile material core” for three nuclear weapons. It may still have up to several thousand bombs and 700 tons of chemical agents. There is evidence the Iraqi government may have been conducting chemical weapons activity in Sudan. Inspectors believe Iraq still has between five and 12 partly disassembled al-Hussein missiles and components for up to 25 additional missiles. It hopes to be able to produce missiles within six months of Saddam giving the order.

Today, Iraq's pieces of weapons, lacking key parts and necessary maintenance, are not much of a threat in the region. But once sanctions are removed, it could very quickly return to that status.

III. Our Turkish Friends
Growing cooperation between Turkey and

Israel has been one of the best things to happen in the Middle East in recent years.

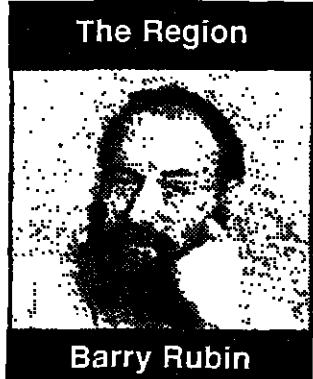
Turkey is a far more democratic and stable state than many observers appreciate. While Ankara and Jerusalem don't agree on everything, they have very many interests in common. Both worry about radical regimes and revolutionary or terrorist forces which might attack or try to destabilize them.

Handling this relationship, however, requires considerable sensitivity. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's statement that Israel and Turkey are forming an axis – what a poor choice of words! – to ensure regional security was unnecessarily provocative.

It must always be emphasized that this is a defensive alignment, not some attempt to dominate the region. Even former prime minister Shimon Peres's well-intentioned talk of Israel's eagerness to help regional economic cooperation quickly became distorted in Arab circles to signify some kind of ambition for controlling the area.

Turkey and Israel share many common threats, especially from Iran, Iraq and Syria. They both face challenges by revolutionary and terrorist groups, as well as a need to defend themselves against proliferating weapons of mass destruction. Most important, they are ready to work together to strengthen their ability to defend themselves, as well as in mutually beneficial trade and technological cooperation. Everything possible should be done to nurture this friendship and alliance.

Incidentally, a good indication of the political atmosphere in Turkey is that the above analysis was recently published as part of an op-ed piece in *Zaman*, Turkey's leading Islamic newspaper.



Barry Rubin

Obstruction of justice

Though an impeachment inquiry could decide otherwise, the most serious probable charge against US President Bill Clinton is generally not prosecuted.
David G. Savage reports from Washington

If President Bill Clinton faces an impeachment inquiry in the House of Representatives, the most powerful charge leveled against him is likely to be obstruction of justice.

Since January, independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr has been investigating whether the president conspired to conceal from lawyers for former Arkansas state worker Paula Corbin Jones his relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

A key question has been what role, if any, Clinton played in retrieving his gifts to the former intern.

In December, lawyers representing Jones in her civil sexual harassment suit against the president subpoenaed Lewinsky and ordered her to “produce each and every gift ... given to you by defendant Clinton.”

In the talk-show chatter of recent months, the president's alleged effort to conceal this subpoenaed evidence is cited repeatedly and casually as clear “obstruction of justice.”

But many criminal lawyers and former prosecutors say it is extremely rare, indeed unheard of by some, to make a criminal obstruction of justice charge out of hidden evidence in a private civil suit.

Judges are divided over whether the federal obstruction statute even covers the hiding of documents or other evidence in a civil case.

And three years ago, the Supreme Court narrowed the reach of the law, ruling that prosecutors must prove an act to hide evidence had a real and “probable” impact on a case's outcome.

Nevertheless, because an impeachment inquiry mixes law and politics, House members could vote to indict Clinton for a “high crime or misdemeanor” that differs somewhat from an ordinary crime.

Typically, prosecutors bring obstruction of justice charges when a criminal defendant tries to scare witnesses against him or to bribe jurors. On occasion, US attorneys have filed perjury charges for lies told during civil depositions but an obstruction of justice charge is much rarer.

“This is not the kind of thing prosecutors would normally pursue,” said Columbia University Law Professor Gerald Lynch, a former federal prosecutor in New York. “A lot of things might technically be covered by the definition of ‘obstruction’ but prosecutors usually draw a distinction between obstruction of a grand jury and obstruction in a civil case.”

In the Watergate scandal, president Richard Nixon was charged with obstruction of justice for try-



US President Bill Clinton enjoys a laugh with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern on his recent trip to Ireland. His troubles over the Lewinsky affair, however, are far from over.

ing to block the FBI from pursuing its investigation of the break-in at the Democratic Party headquarters.

If Starr can show that Clinton used his power to block the criminal investigation, that would resemble a more typical obstruction of justice charge. However, if the independent counsel says the president conspired to hide evidence sought by Jones' lawyers, that could be outside the bounds of ordinary prosecutions, legal experts said.

“In a hotly contested civil case, the other side always thinks someone is trying to hide something,” said Loyola University law professor Laurie L. Levenson, a former assistant US attorney in Los Angeles. “Prosecutors usually don't get involved.”

“As for a criminal prosecution for obstruction in a civil case, if it ever occurs, it's extremely rare. I can't recall one in 20 years here.”

OF COURSE, if the nation's chief executive violated the law, it is a serious matter, even if his offense might escape prosecution if committed by an ordinary citizen, most observers agree.

The president takes an oath to faithfully execute the laws of the land and lying under oath or tampering with evidence could be deemed an impeachable offense.

Nonetheless, the prosecutors' comments show that, despite the

grave sound of the term “obstruction of justice,” hiding evidence from lawyers in a civil case is usually not the kind of offense that warrants a full-scale criminal inquiry.

The obstruction of justice statute, in Section 1503 of the Criminal Code, says that anyone who “corruptly, or by threats or force, endeavors to influence, obstruct or impede the due administration of justice” can be sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

Despite the law's broad wording, most prosecutors say they have never brought such a charge in a civil case.

“Prosecutors don't think it is their job to police civil litigation,” said George Washington University law professor Stephen Saltzburg, a former assistant independent counsel.

Moreover, some prosecutors doubt the phrase “due administration of justice” includes a private lawsuit in which one person seeks monetary damages from another, as in the Jones case.

In 1990, a judge in Oregon threw out an obstruction of justice charge growing out of a corporate lawsuit in which business records were allegedly destroyed.

US District Judge Helen J. Frye wrote that the court had not found any case in which a person was charged with obstruction of justice for concealing or with-

holding discovery in a civil case, adding that “the court declines to stretch the definition” to include such acts.

Ironically, Clinton administration lawyers have been more willing than their predecessors to press the edges of the law and to charge perjury and obstruction of justice in civil cases.

Two years ago, the US attorney in New York filed criminal obstruction of justice charges against two former Texaco executives for concealing documents that had been subpoenaed by lawyers for black employees who had sued the oil company for racial discrimination.

In April of this year, US District Judge Barrington Parker Jr. allowed the case to go to trial, even though he admitted that he could find no record of a defendant having been convicted of obstruction of justice for concealing evidence in a civil suit.

He ruled that the “broad text” of law could be stretched to cover private civil suits as well as criminal investigations. But the case will not stand as a solid precedent because the jurors acquitted the two defendants of the charge.

Milwaukee District Attorney E. Michael McCann said prosecutors are too busy pursuing criminal cases to police lying or concealing evidence in civil suits. “In my 30 years here, I can't

recall a single prosecution for obstruction of justice growing out of a civil case. It just isn't done,” said McCann, who formerly chaired the criminal justice section for the American Bar Association.

McCann made clear that he does not approve of or condone Clinton's conduct.

“It is shameful behavior but as a basis for a prosecution, I think it's virtually unheard of,” he said.

THE PROBLEM of “discovery abuse,” or withholding subpoenaed documents, has been much debated in legal circles in recent years and some judges have imposed stiff fines for violations.

For example, the Prudential Insurance and E.I. DuPont de Nemours companies have been hit with fines of more than \$1 million because officials hid evidence that had been subpoenaed in civil suits.

Violators also can be charged with contempt of court, a possibility raised by US District Judge Susan Webber Wright in Little Rock, Ark.

Speaking from Dallas, a lawyer for Jones said a criminal prosecution for withholding civil evidence is highly unusual.

“Prosecutors don't mess with these cases. They figure there are other sanctions available,” said David M. Pyke. “If you think there is a perjury or withholding evidence on the other side, you can ring up the [district attorney] but they won't pursue it.”

Pyke suggested that Clinton's conduct could be deemed worse, however, if he conspired to prevent Lewinsky from testifying truthfully in the civil case.

Jones sued Clinton for \$700,000 because, she maintained, the then-governor crudely propositioned her in a Little Rock hotel room.

In December, Jones's Dallas lawyers tried to show a pattern of improper behavior on Clinton's part by seeking evidence from Lewinsky.

However, Wright removed the former White House intern from the Jones case, ruling that her evidence was not crucial to the outcome.

Later, the judge dismissed the lawsuit entirely on grounds that Jones could not prove she suffered a “job detriment” for refusing Clinton's alleged advances.

Jones's attorneys had appealed that ruling, however, and hope to have the suit revived by the US appeals court in St. Louis.

If an impeachment inquiry delves into the issue of obstruction of justice, Clinton's lawyers could use Wright's rulings to their benefit.

(Los Angeles Times)

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ספרים לאחל

Russia awaits signal from president to break political deadlock

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia spent another day without a fully functioning government yesterday, its economy unraveling while President Boris Yeltsin pondered the next move in his political chess game with parliament.

Yeltsin apparently was considering alternatives to acting Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, including a Communist whose nomination undoubtedly would sail through the leftist-dominated parliament. But there were signs that Yeltsin might insist on Chernomyrdin after all.

The political stalemate is exacerbating Russia's economic collapse, which was reflected yesterday by rising prices and a spread of emergency measures, such as price controls, in some regions of the country.

Surprisingly, however, the country's battered currency, the ruble, bounced back a bit. Rubles, which were selling at about 20 to the US dollar on Tuesday, rose in street sales to as strong as 10 to the dollar, although rates varied widely. The official

rate was 15.77 rubles to the dollar.

Foreign currency dealers said the improved rate suggested that people had exhausted their ruble supply in panic buying and had begun to exchange more of their dollar savings for rubles. Many Russians keep their savings in US dollars.

The lack of rubles sent the currency's value up — and added a new dimension to people's worries.

"I've been trying in the last few days to buy more," said 25-year-old Dmitry, a police officer who wouldn't give his last name. "But I can't change my money at a bank because there aren't any rubles."

Meanwhile, stores in Moscow were restocking shelves and people seemed less worried about food shortages.

"I'm buying but I haven't been in panic," said Tatyana Shishkova, 57, a retired teacher. "We see people hoarding, but we don't do it. There's no reason for it. You can't buy for your entire life."

Yeltsin spent the day at his country house outside Moscow, meeting with top aides

and deciding if he would agree to a compromise candidate for prime minister.

There was speculation in the Duma, the lower chamber of parliament, that Yeltsin was considering Yuri Maslyukov, a Soviet-era economic official and a member of the Communist Party. Maslyukov has worked with Yeltsin before, resigning last week as trade and industry minister.

Communist and centrist leaders praised Maslyukov, saying they would back him for prime minister. Maslyukov met yesterday with Yeltsin's chief of staff, Valentin Yumashev, but there were no details on what they discussed, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

Maslyukov's spokesman said he hadn't been offered any government post yet, according to Interfax.

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, whose name has been mentioned prominently as a potential prime minister, met with Chernomyrdin and Yeltsin's chief of staff, and predicted afterward that Chernomyrdin would be nominated a third time, ITAR-Tass reported.

The Duma twice has rejected Chernomyrdin's nomination as prime minister. If it rejects Yeltsin's nominee a third time, Yeltsin would be forced by law to dissolve parliament and call new elections.

Chernomyrdin spent five years as prime minister before Yeltsin fired him last March, and many Russians blame him for the country's economic problems. Yeltsin brought him back as acting prime minister last month after firing Sergei Kiriyenko.

A compromise candidate could resolve a deadlock between the president and parliament that has paralyzed the political system even as the Russian economy founders.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov warned that the Duma would begin immediate impeachment proceedings against Yeltsin if he nominated Chernomyrdin a third time. A vote to start impeachment proceedings blocks Yeltsin from dissolving the Duma, although it was not clear if the opposition has enough votes to get such a motion passed.

WORLD

in brief

Missile defense plan stalled in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — A renewed Republican push to speed work on a national missile defense system faltered by a single vote in the US Senate yesterday. The 59-41 vote fell one short of the 60 needed to overcome Democratic opposition and move ahead with debate on the legislation.

In an election-year effort by Republicans to vent their frustrations with the Clinton administration's national-security policies, the vote was a critical, if narrow, victory for the administration.

Carlos accomplice arrested

PARIS (AP) — French police entered a bar in the tiny Normandy village of Saint-Honorine-la-Guille and arrested a German believed to be a former accomplice of "Carlos the Jackal" and wanted for a bloody 1975 terror attack, officials said.

Hans-Joachim Klein, 50, had been sought for more than 20 years. He is wanted for a 1975 attack against OPEC oil ministers in Vienna, during which three people were killed and 70 taken hostage. Orders for the attack are believed to have come from Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, known as Carlos, who is in a French jail serving a life sentence for a triple murder.

Townsperson knew Klein as "Dick" and believed he was a journalist.

Spielberg visits Sachsenhausen

SACHSENHAUSEN (Reuters) — Film director Steven Spielberg yesterday paid an emotional visit to Sachsenhausen concentration camp north of Berlin and said he was encouraged that so many young Germans took part in tours of the camp.

The American director of the film *Schindler's List* spent 45 minutes touring the camp, where about 100,000 Jews, gypsies, homosexuals, and political opponents of the Nazis were murdered between 1936 and 1945. Spielberg, wearing a blue skullcap, toured the camp with a group of several dozen school children from Berlin and the nearby state of Brandenburg.

Neo-Nazis convicted of making Hitler salute

BERLIN (AP) — Four young right-wing extremists who shouted anti-Jewish slogans and made the raised-arm Nazi salute at a former concentration camp were convicted and sentenced to up to one year in prison, court officials said yesterday.

A Berlin court convicted the four, ages 16 to 19, on Tuesday of incitement to racial hatred and using symbols of unconstitutional organizations. The Nazi salute is outlawed in Germany.

Apartheid top cop denies role in killing

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — A top police official of the former apartheid government yesterday denied that he had authorized the killing of the wife of South Africa's Communist Party leader.

Former police commissioner Gen. Johann Coetzee's testimony came as part of a request for amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for the bombing of African National Congress offices in London in 1982.

Ruth First, wife of Communist Party boss Joe Slovo, was killed in Mozambique in 1982 by a parcel bomb.

Indonesians protest over high food prices

SURABAYA, Indonesia (AP) — Riot police scuffled with protesters and fired warning shots yesterday, when about 4,000 students staged one of the biggest protests so far against Indonesia's president over skyrocketing food prices.

Students from several universities gathered outside a government office where President B.J. Habibie was staying during his visit to the nation's second-largest city, Surabaya.

Tripartite Gold Commission completes work

The Tripartite Gold Commission, set up by the Allies a half century ago to oversee the return to European states of some \$4 billion in Nazi-looted gold, was disbanded yesterday in Paris. With its work concluded, it agreed to open its archives.

"We are conscious that, with this work accomplished, we are turning a page," said the French representative, Claude Martin. But he added, "We are conscious that, whatever the efforts and their results, there will be... victims who have not received."

The commission — comprised of the US, Britain and France — was never intended to deal with individual claims to gold, including jewelry and dental gold. It was set up in September 1946 to amass and return about 337 metric tons of gold that had been confiscated by the Nazis from the central banks of Europe.

Marilyn Henry and AP

Heat still on Saddam

News agencies

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright fired back yesterday at critics who accused her of easing away from tough UN inspections of Iraq's suspect weapons sites.

"They are sincerely wrong," Albright said.

In a speech to the American Legion in New Orleans, Albright said the United States has been the strongest international backer of the UN Special Commission.

"We have pushed and pushed and pushed some more to help UNSCOM break through the smokescreen of lies and deception put out by the Iraqi regime," Albright said.

Iraq's policy struggle, Page 8

The critics include Scott Ritter, an American who quit the monitoring commission and complained the administration and the Security Council were letting President Saddam Hussein off the hook.

Richard Butler, the head of the commission, took on Ritter Tuesday, telling *The New York Times* that Ritter's testimony to the Senate was often inaccurate in chronology and detail and had damaged UNSCOM.

Butler also said Ritter, who resigned on Aug. 26, had inflated his role and made misleading statements about Butler's dealing with UN Security Council officials, and particularly with Albright. "The critics are sincere," Albright said in her speech. "We are, after all, on the same side. But they are sincerely wrong when they blame America for the world's failure to uncover the full truth about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs," she said.

Lileikis trial delayed again

VILNIUS, Lithuania (AP) — The trial of Aleksandras Lileikis, charged with genocide for allegedly running over Lithuanian Jews to a Nazi execution squad, was postponed yesterday after Lileikis failed to show up for the opening day.

Lileikis, 91, is seriously ill and has been hospitalized since last week, his defense team told the court. Judge Viktoras Kazhys postponed the trial by one day to allow the defense time to present proof of Lileikis' hospitalization.

Although Lithuanian law allows war-crimes suspects to be indicted in absentia, prosecutors said the trial likely would have to be canceled if Lileikis could not speak in his own defense.

Lithuania has been widely criticized by Jewish groups for the frequent delays in bringing Lileikis to trial.

Although he returned to Lithuania from the US in 1995, as the US was beginning moves to revoke his citizenship, he was not charged until this year.

"All this shows the reluctance in Lithuania to prosecute Nazi collaborators," said Efraim Zuboff of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, who was among the spectators in the tense courtroom.

But many Lithuanians oppose prosecuting Lileikis.

"Are they still trying to try this poor old man," said Jurgis Nainys, a 23-year-old student. "If I had my way, I would let him die in peace."

Lileikis was head of the security police in the Lithuanian capital during the Nazi occupation of 1941-44. The charges allege that he ordered scores of Jews arrested and handed over to a Nazi squad that executed an estimated 70,000 people.



Phnom Penh violence

Cambodian demonstrators carry a wounded monk to safety yesterday after he was shot by police during a violent demonstration against the July 26 election result. The opposition, led by deposed co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh, says Premier Hun Sen's ruling party won the election by fraud and intimidation. (Reuters)

First suit filed in New York over Swissair crash

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Boxing legend Jake LaMotta yesterday filed the first lawsuit over last week's Swissair crash in which his son died along with 228 other people when the jet plunged into the waters off Nova Scotia.

The suit, filed in Brooklyn federal court, seeks more than \$50 million in damages from the defendants — Swissair, Delta Airlines, McDonnell Douglas, which manufactured the MD-11 plane; and Boeing Co., which now owns McDonnell Douglas.

LaMotta, a former middleweight boxing champion, brought the suit on behalf of his son Joseph, 49, who was killed while on his way to

Switzerland to promote a father-son business venture.

The suit alleges that the crash was caused by "electrical, mechanical and/or structural failure."

It accuses Swissair of "negligence, recklessness and carelessness" by allowing the plane to be flown even though a "dangerous and unsafe condition" existed aboard the jet.

It also alleges the plane was defectively manufactured.

Officials have not yet determined the cause of the crash, but Canadian investigators on Tuesday said a catastrophic electrical failure could have occurred aboard the jet just minutes before

it plunged into the Atlantic Ocean off Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia last Wednesday night.

The investigators said they observed signs of heat stress on small fragments of the cockpit recovered from the crash site.

The pilot of Swissair Flight 111 reported smoke in the cabin shortly before crash.

Tribunal calls for UN help

By ERIC ONSTAD

THE HAGUE (Reuters) — The UN war crimes tribunal yesterday demanded that the Security Council get tough with Yugoslavia and force it to hand over three men accused of murdering 260 people after the fall of the Croatian town of Vukovar in 1991.

"They have simply said 'no.' They have flouted the law," Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, president of the tribunal, told a news conference.

McDonald and chief prosecutor Louise Arbour declined to outline specific measures the Security Council should take, but said the lack of action is in stark contrast to sanctions imposed on Libya for failing to honor its UN obligations in the Lockerbie case.

Military action is not in the cards, but serious measures should be taken to force Yugoslavia to uphold its side of the Dayton Agreement that ended the three-year Bosnian war, she said.

The failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) — consisting of Serbia and Montenegro — to cooperate also has an impact on investigations the tribunal has launched on the conflict in Kosovo, Arbour said.

Yugoslavia is alone among countries in the region in refusing to cooperate with the tribunal, McDonald said.

The three suspects — Mile Mrksic, Miroslav Radic, and Veselin Sljivancanin — were indicted in November 1995. They are accused of involvement in the killing of unarmed men forcibly removed from a hospital in the Croatian town of Vukovar in 1991, when it fell to Serb forces following a brutal three-month siege that left hundreds dead.

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Military force at heart of Iraq policy struggle

Republicans are accusing the administration of preferring empty rhetoric over action against Saddam Hussein's defiance on weapons inspections. Mark Matthews reports from Washington

Only sustained military force will make Saddam Hussein abandon his ambition to develop weapons of mass destruction, in the view of a growing number of US officials in the administration and on Capitol Hill.

That forbidding prospect is at the heart of a struggle over Iraq policy being fought on two fronts — between Iraq and the United Nations and between the Republican-controlled Congress and the White House.

For a month, Iraq has barred the United Nations from conducting inspections designed to uncover hidden chemical, biological and missile weapons programs and to prevent development of nuclear arms.

While the Security Council responds with words alone, Iraq's defiance has produced angry finger-pointing in Washington. Republicans accuse the administration of allowing US policy toward Iraq to collapse.

Administration officials counter that certain Republican members showed scant enthusiasm for responding with force during the last Iraqi crisis in February.

The acrimony will likely continue this week, when Senate committees question Secretary of State Madeleine

K. Albright and Defense Secretary William S. Cohen.

WHEN SCOTT Ritter resigned as a UN weapons inspector and contended that Albright had blocked his aggressive inspections in Iraq, he turned a spotlight on a dangerous standoff that could allow Iraq eventually to resume threatening the Middle East with fearsome weapons.

"We are at a serious crisis point with Iraq," said Republican Sen. Richard G. Lugar of Indiana. "No one appears to be quarterbacking a game plan in which intrusive inspections continue and produce results."

Albright and other administration officials insist that they haven't gone soft on Iraq. They say they plan to maintain tight economic sanctions against Iraq and are prepared to use force if necessary in the future — but at a time of their choosing.

But US officials do acknowledge backing away from an earlier threat to respond militarily without hesitation if Iraq interfered with weapons inspections.

Explaining the shift, officials say the administration wanted to avoid being maneuvered into confrontations with Iraq that would require them either to



UN chief investigator Scott Ritter testifying before US Senate committees.

use force or to look weak by backing down.

The reasons for avoiding force were many, according to officials and Iraq experts outside government. The administration lacked support — on the UN Security Council, among Persian

Gulf states, on Capitol Hill and among the American public.

And, a senior official said, after the US built up its forces in the Persian Gulf during February's crisis with Iraq, officials came to grips with the fact that bombing and missile strikes wouldn't be enough.

"You could blow up a building in 1991 or 1992" and get Iraq to pull back from confrontation, the official said. "Now, it may take a good deal more than that."

ALTHOUGH THIS official said the administration had no intention of deploying ground troops, Sen. Joseph R. Biden, ranking Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee and a close ally of the administration, says that nothing short of a replay of the 1991 Persian Gulf War is needed, with the aim of toppling Hussein's regime.

"As long as Saddam's at the helm, there is no reasonable prospect you or any other inspector is ever going to be able to guarantee that we have rooted out, root and branch, the entirety of Saddam's program relative to weapons of mass destruction," Biden said at a Senate hearing last week, looking directly at Ritter.

Although the White House denies that the Monica Lewinsky matter has had any effect on policy-making, a congressional ally says it has.

"The obvious problem of talking about any military action is that Clinton is preoccupied with scandal and people also would accuse him of doing it to distract attention from the scandal," said a

Democratic staff member.

In addition, analysts cite a palpable fatigue after seven years of maintaining pressure on Iraq while failing to uncover all of Baghdad's weapons secrets.

EVENTUALLY, a senior administration official said, one of two things could happen: Hussein could comply and allow full inspections to resume — an unlikely prospect.

Or he could overreach, perhaps by firing at one of the US or allied aircraft patrolling the skies over northern or southern Iraq, or taking some other aggressive military action.

"We're going to be in a very firm position if and when he overreaches," this official said. "We feel like we're gaining more support and undergirding for what will follow."

The administration's critics argue that the White House is escalating the need for military action by backing down now from the threats it made earlier this year. And they question whether, when the need for force arises again, the administration will again shrink from it.

"We keep using rhetoric we don't act on," says Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. (The Baltimore Sun)

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The lowdown on the slave trade

JEW AND THE AMERICAN SLAVE TRADE by Saul S. Friedman. New Brunswick (US) and London (UK), Transaction Publishers. 326 pp. Price not stated.

By Jay Bushinsky

Arnon Lopez was a crypto-Christian, a descendant of the Iberian peninsula's Marranos, who was born in Portugal, immigrated to the New World and made a name for himself in then-British North America as a trader in black slaves among other salable commodities.

He inspired five pages of detailed biography in the Nation of Islam's pseudo-scientific tract entitled *The Secret Relationship Between Blacks and Jews*, which was published in the US six years ago. A consummate merchant who imported a dazzling array of commodities, from coffee to cloth and from onions to flour, Lopez also included African chattels in his cargo, treating them as if they were nothing more than potentially profitable items on his vessels' manifests.

His ship captains were instructed to keep the slaves in leg irons and handcuffs because, according to Saul S. Friedman's incredibly detailed work, *Jews and the American Slave Trade*, he considered them "less than human" and believed that captivity was "their natural habitat." When Lopez's son-in-law, Abraham Pereira, repeatedly objected to the conditions in which the slaves arrived in Jamaica in November 1767, Friedman discovered that "Lopez cared only whether the price would be 27 or 45 pounds sterling per head." But Lopez's attitude and commercial activity were atypical of his Jewish forebears, contemporaries and successors during the nearly 400 years of slavery that culminated in President Abraham Lincoln's historic Emancipation Proclamation and the subsequent abolition of this social scourge as a result of the North's victory over the South in the American Civil War. Friedman cites countless documents culled from the shipping activity of Jewish and non-Jewish traders as well as from the slave markets of the 13 colonies and their antimonarchist progeny, the United States of America, to prove that American Jews played a minuscule role in importing, marketing and exploiting African slaves.

The inspiration for Friedman's scholarly overview was provided by the City University of New York's controversial and widely condemned Prof. Leonard Jeffries, who, in a watershed speech delivered on July 20, 1991, charged that "there was a conspiracy on the part of Hollywood producers to denigrate African people; this conspiracy was a product of cooperation between the Mafia and Russian Jews seeking the destruction of black people; Jews were no strangers to domination and control of blacks since they had financed the slave trade."

Friedman, who teaches Holocaust and Jewish studies at Kent State University, is a meticulous scholar. He demolishes Jeffries' canard by producing list upon list of American



A slave auction in Virginia

merchants and vessels that brought helpless black men and women to North America after they had been taken into bondage in West Africa, often by Arab slave traders who cut deals with unscrupulous tribal chiefs that cost hundreds of thousands of unsuspecting people their freedom and basic human rights.

He quotes U.B. Phillips's contention, as published in *American Negro Slavery*, that "the impulse for the enslavement of Negroes by other peoples came from the Arabs who spread over Northern Africa in the eighth century." And he cites Alan Moorehead's view that "no Arab regarded the trade as any more evil or abnormal than, presumably, a horse-dealer regards as evil or abnormal the buying or selling of horses." John Laffin is quoted by Friedman as offering the most damning judgment of all: "The slave trade was begun in Africa by the Arabs; they were the procurers and the suppliers...The Arabs had many centuries of experience in slave trading before the European entrepreneurs saw money in the business, and they knew every trick of the trade - how to ambush Negroes, how to deceive them, where to find their hiding places."

The lists and tables assembled by Friedman speak for themselves. For example, the number of slaves imported by New York Jews from 1715 to 1765 per incoming vessel shows that they accounted for less than five percent of the human cargo. A rundown of slave traders, auctioneers or brokers in Charleston, South Carolina, from 1859 to 1860, contains five ostensibly Jewish names out of 45. A breakdown of Mississippi planters who owned 300 or more slaves in 1850 contains no Jewish names, while a follow-up for 1860 has one

presumably Jewish name, Marshall Levin, out of 19. This Levin, who may or may not have been Jewish, had 352 slaves.

Describing the Nation of Islam's *Secret Relationship* as a handbook of hate, Friedman sees an ideological line that can be traced back to black bigots like Arthur Reid, director of the African Progressive Business League, who was overheard by Stephen Denon (better known as John Roy Carlson, author of *Undercover* and *From Cairo to Damascus*) to say, in 1940: "I like Hitler...Yeah, I like Hitler...Let the white man kill his brother white man. It'll leave fewer whites to bother with later - when the black man can step in and get justice for himself."

Friedman zeroes in on such peddlers of rank bigotry: "What is especially distressing among the accusations of Professor Jeffries today and street radicals in Harlem in 1942 is the claim that Jews controlled the chattel slave trade in and about the Western Hemisphere. This hoary canard, repeated in the respectable chambers of black churches in Cleveland and Youngstown as well as on the stage of the Apollo Theater when Morton Downey Jr. brought his travelling video circus to Harlem a few years ago, owes its revival to Nation of Islam spokesman Louis Farrakhan..."

"From Farrakhan, his disciples and Farrakhan's lieutenant, the self-proclaimed 'Doctor' Khalid Abdul Muhammad, came figures of 60, 100, even 600 million Africans slain in the overall operations of African slavery. And much of it could be blamed on the Jews."

After demolishing these slanders by marshalling undeniable historical evidence from dozens of archives, and scholarly research

which is amazing because of its authenticity and attention to detail, Friedman goes on to comment on the American blacks' situation in the post-slavery and post-Jim Crow US. "Thirty years after the launching of the Great Society by president Lyndon B. Johnson, little seems to have changed within the black community," Friedman writes. "In fact, the situation in America's inner cities may be worse today than 30 years ago. Unemployment among blacks is double the national average. There are fewer two-parent families today than in 1967 when Daniel Patrick Moynihan did his study of inner city life in America. More young black males die of gunshot wounds than any other cause. Educational, employment, and residential opportunities are still limited. While blacks constitute 11 percent of the national population, it is estimated that African Americans will make up 50 percent of the HIV cases by the turn of the century."

"Forty years after Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, racism is still rampant in America. For some in the nation's ghettos, there is only hopelessness and despair. Others, like Farrakhan and Jeffries, seek to channel frustration and rage against society's traditional other - the Jew."

Thus, if scholarship, evidence and lucidity can defeat falsehood, and reverse prejudice and political opportunism, Friedman undoubtedly has won the day for American Jewry and fair-minded people everywhere in the world. But if Jeffries, Farrakhan and company keep using Joseph Goebbels's technique of repeating a big lie to such an extent that it becomes popular wisdom, the naive hope that truth will out may be in vain.

Peripatetic interviews

PORTRAITS: Talking with Artists at the Met, the Modern, the Louvre, and Elsewhere by Michael Kimmelman. New York, Random House. 265pp. \$29.95.

By Owen McNally

Armed with a tiny tape recorder and a keen journalistic sense, Michael Kimmelman has created a delightful gallery of sharp, perceptive sketches of 18 major contemporary artists. Kimmelman, who is the chief art critic at *The New York Times*, is a devout believer in Cezanne's adage: "One can only speak properly about paintings in front of paintings." So he chats about art with a glittering array of art stars and superstars while strolling with them individually through prestigious museums.

Among others, Francis Bacon, Lucian Freud, Richard Serra, Cindy Sherman, Jacob Lawrence, Hans Haacke and Chuck Close take walking/talking tours with the writer, stopping here and there to give spontaneous reflections on museum masterworks ranging from Rembrandt to Jackson Pollock.

Invariably, their comments, whether by Leon Golub and Nancy Spero or Susan Rothenberg and Bruce Nauman - the two married art couples taking Kimmelman's museum tours - tell you much more about the artists than about the art works they comment on.

The book's 16 pieces originally appeared in *The New York Times*. But they've been revised and expanded for this slim anthology that marks Kimmelman's first book. Despite the formulaic format, the mini-profiles are crisp, entertaining and anything but a boring rehash of withered clippings from the *Times* library. Basically, what you get is an anthology of insightful quotes from artists who, thanks to Kimmelman's low profile, seem to speak directly to you.

Elizabeth Murray has interesting things to say about the role of the unconscious in creation. And Lucian Freud, grandson of Sigmund Freud, finds, rather unsurprisingly, the erotic element in all art.

Perhaps because of the loose and easy format of the peripatetic interviews, Kimmelman's subjects sometimes irreverently trash artists, old and modern, who have long been canonized.

Balthus, who was interviewed in his Swiss chalet, tells Kimmelman that Leger was "very stupid" and "most of the people who did abstraction were stupid." Rothenberg complains that the now sainted Vermeer "has got no juice," and his works are "dehumanized." And Close, a painter whose work has redefined contemporary portraiture, puts down both Rembrandt and Renoir.

Of Rembrandt, Close says: "I find that all the highlights keep popping off like flashbulbs, and then he mixes up stews of brown, soppy oils to obscure the incoherent." And Close demeans Renoir as "Italian restaurant painting, and unless you're having pizza you wouldn't want to look at it." One of Kimmelman's goals is to bring more voices into the public dialogue on art - a dialogue too often cluttered with pompous, academic art-speak. Kimmelman and his interviewees provide dozens of insights into the art world without once resorting to jargon.

Along with the artists' crisp dialogue, or monologues, Kimmelman's vignettes give you succinct biographies that are much like zesty, literate soundbites.

Here, for example, is Kimmelman on a pivotal turning point in the boyhood of Francis Bacon, the brilliant, volatile painter both famous and infamous for his screaming popes, butchered carcasses and mutilated, eyeless, meaty creatures.

At 16, Kimmelman writes, Bacon was banished to London by his father, a disciplinarian and gambler, after the young lad "had sex with the groom's at the stables, then was caught trying on his mother's underwear." Next year, Master Bacon set off for Berlin where he "spent nights in transvestite bars and endless hours with the sort of rough-and-tumble characters to whom he would always gravitate." This mini-portrait of an artist as a young man gives insight into the experience the anarchical spirit and future alcoholic would pour into his wondrously scandalous art works that today "few museums in America or elsewhere don't own or covet," Kimmelman says.

One of Kimmelman's strengths is his ability to create almost Dickensian, quick sketches of his subjects.

Here's a Polaroid-like snapshot of Roy Lichtenstein: "Slim and bird-like, the master of Pop has his gray hair, as usual, tightly pulled into a ponytail, accentuating his narrow face, big eyes and beaked nose." Vivid prose like that makes you feel as if you're actually with these artists at the Met, the Modern, the Louvre or elsewhere.

(The Hartford Courant)

Dinner talk with Wittgenstein

THE CAMBRIDGE QUINTET: A Work of Scientific Speculation by John L. Casti. Reading, MA, Addison-Wesley. 181 pp. \$23.

By Ephraim Gerber

Here is a fine idea for a work of "scientific fiction" (the author insists on differentiating between scientific fiction and science fiction). Go back into the mists of

time, say the late 1940s, that innocent age before computers existed. Imagine a gathering at an English university dinner of a small group of geniuses representing science, math and philosophy. These are men like Alan Turing, the mathematical wunderkind who broke the German secret code in the early days of the war, and Ludwig Wittgenstein, the philosopher of language, men whose work and personalities might make them

adamantly for or against the possibility that an artificially intelligent thinking machine - perhaps to be quaintly called ACE, the Automatic Computing Engine - might someday be constructed. Over the course of this meal the basic workings of the first computer are dramatically laid out. The reader can get an idea of how far artificial intelligence has come, and how things might have been different, or certainly delayed.

So much for the idea. But the devil is in the execution. Casti's attempt to recreate the primordial days of innocence before computers had conquered everything and everybody reads like a satire. The poor Brits. They never really did speak like this except in Basil Rathbone movies: "Gentlemen, please," he [the host, C.P. Snow] pleaded, "I see you've already come around to one of the key issues I've asked you here to consider. So may I suggest we

retire to the dining room and continue this discussion over dinner?" "I could do with a bit of sustenance," chimed in Haldane. "Chiming in" is what the characters do with irritating frequency in this novel, instead of interrupting or asking for the floor or simply speaking. Unfortunately, it is too poorly written for a general recommendation, but perhaps *The Cambridge Quintet* might make a gift for a young computer enthusiast.

BOOK BYTES

At age 74 historical novelist Lady Dorothy Dunnett is looking forward to the millennium. She then plans to celebrate the completion of the eighth and last title in her "House of Niccolo" series at a banquet in the Grand Hall of Scotland's Royal Stirling Castle. She has just finished *Caprice and Rondo* (Knopf), the seventh book in the series built around the life and times of her 15th-century merchant-adventurer Nicholas de Fleury.

The Scottish-born Dunnett was educated at James Gillespie's High School for Girls in Edinburgh (the setting for Muriel Spark's novel *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*), where she got "a solid grounding in Latin that has proven invaluable" to her research. She never went on to university.

During the war years she did an evening course in painting, and for a while she was a successful portrait painter. Painting "honed my powers of observation." Her mother introduced Dunnett to the classic historical novelists like Dumas, Sabatini and Baroness Orczy of *Scarlet Pimpernel* fame. "After a while, I seemed to have read everything in the genre," she says. It was her husband, Sir Alastair Dunnett, chief editor of the *Scottishman* newspaper for 20 years and knighted in 1995, who suggested that perhaps she should try writing a historical novel of her own. Dunnett settled on 16th-century Europe, which she soon discovered was a rich and vast tapestry, difficult to research.

In the period before photocopyers, she filled dozens of notebooks with background for *The Game of Kings*, the first novel in her previous "Lymond" series. On account of its length, no British publisher would accept *The Game*, so she turned to America, where the manuscript found a home with Putnam, publishers of Margaret Mitchell's saga *Gone With the Wind*.

Dunnett now does her research throughout Europe with a camera ("I take masses of photographs") and on note cards ("details of smells, sounds, language, flowers and climate"). She writes on a computer in her "studio" throughout the night until dawn, and sleeps until about 11 o'clock.

Her books have a predominantly female readership in spite of their military and Machiavellian subject matter. Dunnett has also written a series of contemporary thrillers featuring Johnson Johnson, a secret agent who poses as a portrait painter.

STILL IN Scotland, James Thin the bookseller is celebrating 150 years of bookselling this year. The family-run firm, now in its fifth generation, still operates out of the same premises at 14 Infirmary Street (just off South Bridge, opposite the University of Edinburgh) in which it first opened in 1848. These days, Thin's owns nearly the whole block, and has grown to a large British chain with shops throughout Scotland and England.

The original James Thin established his enterprise in a period when publishing and bookselling were burgeoning industries in the Edinburgh of Sir Walter Scott and the early *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. In the mid-19th century the number of booksellers in the Scottish capital climbed to over 100. Within seven years of its founding, Thin's was advertising the shop as the "largest retail book-selling establishment in Edinburgh." Thin, who was a deeply religious man with a long white beard, said in later life (he died in 1915 at age 91): "The book-seller is a great civilizing force in modern society, helping on, in the exercise of his vocation, the elevation of mankind."

David Brauner

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Manning the 21st century IDF

Ten years after chief of staff Dan Shomron called for a "small and smart" army, the IDF is still groping uncertainly towards the army of the future.

The suggestions by outgoing OC Manpower Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer regarding cuts in reserve duty and paying wages to draftees are perhaps useful stimulants for public debate, but they are no substitute for a clear road map for the IDF's entry into the 21st century.

"Our dream is to lower the discharge age for combat soldiers to 36 (from the current age of 45)," Sheffer said, adding that if the army managed to retain soldiers in field units, the change could be implemented within five years. Perhaps as revolutionary, Sheffer suggested that by the middle of the next decade, the IDF would pay all draftees a salary "perhaps as high as the minimum wage." Draftees are paid only a few hundred shekels a month now, so paying even minimum wage could cost the IDF about NIS 3 billion.

The cost of paying draftees a wage, as great as it is, is not the greatest obstacle to the idea, but rather its implication of moving towards a professional army. Sheffer immediately denied that such an idea is in the cards, saying that the draft will never be eliminated because of the threats facing Israel. Actually, the country has been moving in the direction of a professional army for some time now.

In 1985, 90 percent of Israeli 18 year olds were drafted. Today, almost half are not — including Arabs, haredim, and those with assorted medical exemptions. Of those who serve, fewer than 10 percent serve in combat units, while the rest comprise the military's enormous logistical and administrative tail. According to Prof. Stuart Cohen of BESA, there is no reason why most of these logistical functions cannot be carried out by professionals, rather than draftees.

Of course, moving to either a very narrow draft or to a professional army would constitute a revolution in Israel's social ethos. The military would no longer be the glue that holds society together, a common rite of passage, and a binding force tying citizens to the state. Rather, it would become a profession demanding more patriotism than most, but in many ways just another profession.

The professional armies in Europe and US are only one current within the mainstream of culture, and must scramble to attract talented youth

with training, scholarship, and financial benefits. Without revealing his standard of measurement, Sheffer stated that Israeli officers "belong to the top three deciles of society," a situation which he implies would not continue without the draft.

Professional or "volunteer" armies are both a luxury and a necessity of countries at peace. The Israeli experience began with the defense of the nation absorbing almost every man, woman, and child at its founding, and evolved into the surplus of draftees that exists today. Like most democracies, Israel may already be too rich and populous to justify a universal draft, but shifting to a volunteer army also implies a shift to volunteer threats.

Even if the peace process is successful on its own terms over the next decade, it will have produced a peace that is built upon a healthy dose of military deterrence. Peace treaties can make an indispensable contribution to Israel's security, but they are neither achievable nor will they last unless Israel maintains its deterrent capabilities. The challenge is to maintain its might in an era of peace, while shifting to a smaller, leaner, and more professional army.

Even while the draft remains, the composition of the army, and particularly its combat units, will and should increasingly become a matter of choice. In this environment, the fairness question must be addressed, both by requiring national service from those who are not drafted, and by reducing the relative financial sacrifice of those who choose the military. Already, there is no reason to continue the expensive and unfair practice of using reservists for unskilled operational tasks, such as guard duty. If reservists were only be called for necessary refresher training, the personal and financial costs of reserve duty would be greatly reduced, and a significant deterrent to choosing combat service would be largely removed.

In the past decade, there has been no shortage of committees and reports, all pointing the same direction — cut reserve duty, draft fewer people, and treat them better. This is the right path. For all the social implications of abandoning the notion of a universal "people's army." But the current transitional situation, in which universality has already eroded but has not yet been replaced by more choice and benefit-based alternatives, is unstable and should not be dragged out unnecessarily.



School for scandal

DANIEL DORON

Only a state bureaucracy and the belligerent bosses of the teachers' union could have succeeded in ruining education among a people traditionally so excellent in it.

As the low academic achievements, the chaos and violence in so many schools indicate, Israeli education is in perpetual crisis. This despite enormous expenditures of over NIS 30 billion, 10.4% of GNP (the highest proportion in the world; 16% of the budget!) and despite the employment of 250,000 people, an incomparable 12.1% of the workforce.

What Israeli parents receive for what is misleadingly called "free" education is what you would expect to get for free — an inferior product. But "free" translates to extremely expensive, since parents are forced to pay twice for this shoddy package, once in exorbitant taxes, and then in costly supplementary "grey" education.

It also involves additional immense hidden costs representing wasted human potential and the perpetuation of ignorance and miseducation. (Altogether, when the state offers something "free," whether education or health care, one must include hidden costs to appreciate how expensive and regressive such "gifts" are.)

The politicization and bureaucratization of state education is the scourge of all democracies, having ruined what were good to excellent educational systems in the US, Britain, Sweden and elsewhere. Israel's problems are much worse, however, because of greater state domination and intervention, a remnant of our Bolshevik beginnings.

IN THE US, education so disintegrated that reformers managed to overcome teachers' union opposition and launch a few tentative reforms, decentralizing the system, offering choice through open enrollment and devolving power to parents.

Even such partial reforms were very successful, benefitting mostly the poorer and weaker strata (the powerful manage in every

system.) This greatly alarmed the politically strong unions.

When it was proposed to extend reform to whole states, such as California, the unions spent a fortune to defeat the initiative. Now the pro-reform struggle continues in the courts and on the ground, where reforms score important victories.

Everywhere, it seems that politically powerful vested interests, mostly teachers' unions, are determined to protect a destructive system and the status of even mediocre or bad teachers. A hostile educational bureaucracy, reluctant to be held accountable or to share power, has joined the unions in defeating most reforms, however desperately needed. They distort the reforms' purpose, presenting them as a threat to equality and fairness.

In Israel too, tentative efforts to institute open enrollment and increase accountability and creative competition, launched when Shimon Shoshani was Education Ministry director-general, fizzled out in the face of such opposition, supported by educational ideologues in academia and a media that cares mostly about the political exploitation of education rather than its success.

Educational reforms have also been discredited because past reforms based on wrong premises have repeatedly failed. Numerous studies now conclude that successful reform does not require great additional expenditures, raising teachers' salaries, smaller classes or uniform national standards, as was commonly believed.

The delivery of education requires mostly good management and an atmosphere conducive to learning. The present system encourages bureaucratization, lack of accountability, risk aversion and resistance to creativity and change. It can be changed at little cost.

Schools must be granted a measure of autonomy by diminishing the centralized power of the bureaucracy, since one cannot expect accountability without

responsibility, nor can a centralized authority effectively respond to the varying needs of schools.

Critics fear that autonomy will result in chaos and in falling standards. But when teachers and parents take charge they can do much more than a remote self-seeking bureaucracy to improve standards, and they are far more motivated to succeed.

Second, the submission of schools to regulations and directives must be minimized. Schools cannot develop initiatives if they are confined in a regulatory straight jacket. They must be accountable, of course, to certain basic standards, but they ought to be encouraged to experiment and innovate in attaining them. Those that succeed will then serve as models for others.

Thirdly, authority must be devolved so that parents can become more involved in schools. Most parents, experienced teachers, are not too ignorant, confused or busy to make important decisions, as champions of the bureaucracy claim, not even in the less educated, "lower" strata. When given a choice through open enrollment, parents choose the better schools. Choice eliminates many of the discipline problems created when children are forced into schools. Through choice, competition — a chief catalyst for improvement, in education as in sports, that is now missing in the system — is introduced. While the dissemination of knowledge is different than, say, the sale of sausages, still, as our sages remarked "the envy of scribes increases wisdom."

Common sense, however, is irrelevant to educational reform. Entrenched interests will fiercely protect their monopoly at the expense of students. The scandals erupting with every school year opening will continue until a real crisis will force change. Until then, our children will continue to receive the defective, costly and what has essentially become, since the collapse of the Socialist ethos and the advent of post-Zionism, a value-less, nihilistic education.

The goal is rehab

RUBY RIVLIN

no less. Although the law grants extensive powers of consideration with regard to the actual decision to release the prisoner, the amount to be deducted from the sentence is inflexible. In practice, this means that a prisoner who is not found to merit having his sentence cut by a third is deprived of all hope.

A prisoner who has lost all hope is double trouble for the system, for his environment, his family and himself. In many cases this type of prisoner will lose any motivation for rehabilitation prior to his release. It would be much more reasonable to assume that he will simply continue to handle his "affairs" both inside and outside prison and when he has completed his term he will return to a life of crime. As far as he is concerned, the rehabilitative purpose of the punishment will have completely missed the target.

If the parole boards have the power to cut differential shares of the terms of sentence, a prisoner may be found eligible for having his sentence reduced by 10 or 25 percent.

The chance that he will succeed in joining a rehabilitation program, that he will become part of a drug rehabilitation program, that he will take care to behave well in prison, in short — that he will be rehabilitated, is considerably greater than the effort he will be prepared to make if there is no prize at journey's end.

EARLY release could be contingent on various conditions which would increase the chances of making the rehabilitation successful. The Authority for Prisoner Rehabilitation — which is a fervent supporter of the bill and would, according to the proposal, be involved in defining the criteria for allowing early release, has suggested that early release be contingent upon the prisoner first living

in a hostel or halfway house.

Reducing the sentence by a third, which has become something of a "sacred cow" will be wiped out of the legal and social vocabulary. It will be replaced by early, monitored release, on a differential basis, to be determined individually for each prisoner. True, a few prisoners may be deemed to deserve having half their sentences cut. On the other hand however, many prisoners who now have their sentences reduced by a third due to the rigidity of the current system, may have their terms reduced by a smaller proportion.

No-one is proposing that there be a wholesale release of criminals. In recent years, the legal system has been characterized by a gradual transition from a strict, procedural parole system to a more meaningful system. From this perspective, the "institution" of the one-third reduction is anachronistic.

Those who oppose the bill claim that it will encourage crime and that it weakens the courts. This claim gives rise to the supposition that the reduction of a third of the term served should also be re-examined. Otherwise, how can the same privilege be applied to a murderer who has served 16 years of a 24-year sentence, and a tax offender who has served eight months of year-long sentence? Perhaps the murderer (assuming that he deserves any early release at all) should have his sentence reduced by two years, and the tax offender — serving a first-time conviction, should have his sentence cut by half.

Placing a judge at the head of every parole board and providing the boards with more effective tools for assessing a prisoner's true situation, together with the power to reduce sentences differentially, will supplement the work of judges who pass sentence and significantly increase the chance of successfully rehabilitating prisoners.

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

Losing faith

President Clinton did well by remembering the existence of the Middle East conflict and dispatching his peace envoy to the area. But Mr. Clinton is wrong if he thinks that this is all it takes to produce a breakthrough in the peace process.

Time is not on the side of peace. Palestinians are pessimistic about the success of the latest Ross mission.

After all, this is not his first visit to the area, and no tangible change has taken place since his last visit four months ago.

Almost a year ago, and after well-calculated planning and thought, the Americans suggested a compromise deal that they felt was fair to both sides.

Palestinians were told that this was a package deal, and that neither side could make any changes to it. The Palestinian leadership accepted the plan.

Israel's rejection came in the form of trying to make changes. US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright warned both sides that the US would publicize the plan and would tell the world who is holding up its implementation.

That threat has never been carried out. Instead, the Americans came with an old, overused Israeli idea. All that is needed to bring about peace in the Middle East, they argued, is for the parties to talk face to face.

As expected, this naive American idea of leaving Palestinians and Israelis to work out their problems has failed. After all if Israelis would not yield to their American allies why would they yield to the Palestinians? In a conflict with such a lopsided balance of power, such an idea was doomed to fail, or have the weak side capitulate to the other. Ross's return is an admission of this idea's failure.

NOW THAT the political ball is back in the US court, what will the Clinton administration do?

To begin with, Clinton needs to decide whether he is willing to pay the political price for doing what it takes to bring forth a resolution.

The time is ripe, the gap between the parties is narrow and the White House can use some good news.

The idea of a package deal must be made clear. If it is negotiable, then both sides should be allowed to renegotiate. If not, then both sides must be told in no uncertain terms that this is it. Giving one side the opportunity to open up the deal has been a terrible mistake. It is either a package deal or we are back to square one and everyone side can submit its demands.

The balance of power between the Israelis and the Palestinians should not be allowed to influence US policy.

Nevertheless, the Palestinians reluctantly accepted this suggestion as a way to move the process forward. Apparently by holding out, the Israelis were able to try to make changes to the original plan. Being the stronger party, the Americans were unable, or rather unwilling, to stop this heavy-handed Israeli tactic.

The result has been that Palestinians have refused any changes in the deal they agreed upon. The public gets the impression that Palestinians are intransigent and the Israeli are seen as flexible, throwing in new ideas every time. The reality is the opposite.

Finally, the Clinton administration and Israel must remember the human factor. Five years after the beginning of Oslo, some of the most vocal supporters of it have been unable to continue to defend it.

The average Palestinian today is utterly frustrated by the entire process. Simple things like a Gaza-West Bank free passage road have yet to be opened.

Thousands of students and family members have been unable to make the journey between these two locations defined in the Oslo Agreement as one geographic unit. Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes has reached unprecedented heights with rarely an international criticism. East Jerusalem has become like a foreign city to most Palestinians as the entry to the city continues to be forbidden without a permit. An apartheid-like situation is taking legal cover as Israeli settlers fall under different laws than Palestinians living in the same geographic area. The settlers have the freedom to travel, they pay less for water and electricity and are treated differently by the Israeli police than Palestinians.

It is no wonder that the average Palestinian has lost faith in peace, in the Americans, the Israelis and even in their own national authority. Time is certainly not on the side of peace, despite the artificial relative quiet.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FAIR WARNING

Sir, — In "Making Israel home — despite everything" (August 7) MK Naomi Blumenthal bemoans the fact that the Jewish Anglo-Saxon communities are not making aliyah. Why should they?

What incentive would they have? Would they be provided with a good political system, great economic prospects or harmonious racial and religious relations?

In my opinion, as an Anglo-Saxon oleh, the sacrifice is too great. One who makes this transition at retirement and even earlier is a masochist, a hero or just plain crazy.

I considered I had the background to work for a land that I felt was my own as a politically motivated individual in my former country. Unfortunately I observe

an absurd political system masquerading as a democracy. An electoral system that permits minority parties to have a voice and power disproportionate to their numbers. It has no constituency representation or a constitution. It is a system manipulated by a few with nepotism and cronyism to the detriment of the majority of the community. There is no separation between religion, the state and military. This type of system encourages mediocrity. I believe it will ultimately lead to disaster if continued.

It is apparent no one in this country wants advice from newcomers even if they have lifelong experience and particularly if you are not fluent in the language. This is portrayed by Sam Orbaum in his

recent article called "Poor Ol Us" (August 17).

I have experienced a deteriorating quality of life since making aliyah. There is a lack of facilities including town planning, rubbish collection, street cleaning, the environment, traffic and parking which is not accepted in any civilized society.

Any Anglo-Saxon intending to make aliyah should carefully do their homework by considering various aspects, including the political and economic system, the polarization of ethnic and religious implications of migrating to Israel.

JACK DAVIS

Jerusalem.

THE CLEVELAND MODEL

Israeli people.

They need the creation of a new and truly effective support framework beginning with adequate training in the States by career *shlitim*, preferably Americans who have made aliyah.

They need arrangements for their pilot trips that include adequately researching job opportunities, setting up employment interviews prior to arrival and providing opportunities to seek housing and schools in English-speaking communities.

They need knowledgeable, helpful and available American olim to turn to for guidance after they arrive on aliyah.

Our Cleveland aliyah support

organization sponsored a pilot program that included many of the above recommendations. In 13 years we reduced the attrition of Clevelanders from 80 percent to 10 percent.

Today, Cleveland has the largest per-capita group of American olim in Israel.

Design a new, comprehensive aliyah support system, and they will come from America.

SHIRLEY GOODMAN,
Executive Director
Volunteers for Clevelanders
in Israel

Cleveland, Ohio.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On September 10, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that the body of King Faisal of Iraq who had died in Switzerland was brought by Royal Air Force to Jerusalem for a religious service. It was later transported by a special train which traveled slowly across the country, stopping at major Arab localities to Haifa to be flown again by the RAF for burial to Baghdad.

50 years ago: On September 10,

1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the meeting between the Mediator, Count Bernadotte, and Israel's Foreign Minister, Mr. Shertok, added little to the knowledge of either and less to the clarification of the problems of peace. Mr. Shertok reminded the Mediator that his organization failed to prevent an increase in 30 to 40 percent of the Arab military strength and that he could not be expected to surrender the security of Israel to a

scrap of well-meaning paper. 25 years ago: On September 10, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the American-based Hebrew Immigrants Aid Society (HIAS) would no longer extend help to Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union who sought its assistance in immigrating to a Western country after first coming to Israel.

Alexander Zvielli

صلى الله عليه وسلم

The View From the East

Losing faith

P

Weekender



These drummers are joined by traditional Japanese string and wind instrumentalists in a two-hour show which has been touring for 29 years.

Distant drums come closer

The 'Demon Drummers' of the Ondekoza ensemble bring Japanese performance art to our stages

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The beating of the drum has reverberated for many centuries in the remotest parts of the world, announcing victories or warning of an approaching enemy. Drums were played in religious ceremonies and played a major part in what we call primitive religious rituals. Japanese Taiko drumming is one of the oldest and most developed forms of percussion in existence. But what began long ago as part of a religious ceremony has, in the last few decades, turned into an exciting performing art. Japanese drummers no longer perform their art solely to raise and entertain the gods – instead they drum for a paying audience. The man responsible for this change is Tagayasu Den, who 29 years ago founded an ensemble of Japanese drummers and musicians called *Ondekoza*, the Demon Drummers. *Ondekoza*-style drummers have already

entranced local audiences, and the real *Ondekoza* is performing Saturday in Tel Aviv. The *Ondekoza* is not just another percussion ensemble. When the company made its American debut tour in 1990, Den decided that it should be more than just a musical experience. So, instead of flying his musicians from one American city to another, he decided that the ensemble would make the tour on foot. Not a leisurely walk on the highway, but a marathon run that lasted for close to three years. During that time, *Ondekoza* members ran 16,000 kilometers through the US – about 25 to 30 kilometers every other day – and performed in close to 300 concerts. Before their farewell concert at Carnegie Hall they participated in the New York marathon, just for the fun of it. Uriel Luft, *Ondekoza*'s world-wide representative, explains that "Den was the first man who ever thought of Taiko drumming as a performing-art form. This style of

drumming was usually heard at the local festivals of villagers and peasants. But Den wanted to turn Taiko drumming into an international performance art, and through it, bring Japanese culture to concert halls and communities all over the world. "He gathered together Taiko drummers as well as other traditional string and wind Japanese instrumentalists and concocted a two-hour show with which he has been touring for 29 years. It is quite a breathtaking experience." But *Ondekoza* is not just a drumming style, it is a way of life. The 10-member group – which includes two women – lives in a commune at the foot of Mt. Fuji in Japan. There they combine physical and mental training with a special diet and long-distance running. Only when they tour do they enjoy the comfort of a hotel room, but even then they run a lot. Most of these very special musicians are in their 20s. "None is married. It is very hard

to maintain a family life with the way they live and perform. Those who want to marry, leave." The musicians have very little free time. Training and performing take up most of the day. "But they all have cameras and have a very visual way of looking at things and savoring them. Their entire perspective of life is visual which has to do with the very visual side of their performance." Dressed in just a tiny loincloth and with their backs to the audience, *Ondekoza* members beat the huge taiko drums. The result is not just a stunning audio experience but a hypnotizing, captivating visual one as well. The music is a combination of the old and the new. Den composed a sort of a requiem based on his memories of 41 of his 48 classmates who were killed during the air raids on Tokyo in 1945. Another opus was derived from the story of Chinese immigrants to the US who helped build the transcontinental railroad, only to

be dismissed with no place to go. Other pieces celebrate the majestic beauty of nature. Nothing *Ondekoza* does is simple. Everything is deeply anchored in the powerful belief that music is life and that music has a very important social meaning, even when it is presented as mere entertainment. The major aim of the ensemble, Luft emphasizes, "is goodwill. They wholeheartedly believe they can bring people together through their music. Making contact with new people, bringing the Japanese culture all over the world is a sort of a sacred mission." *Ondekoza* performs Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv with further concert dates on September 14 at the Haifa Congress Center, September 17 at the Jerusalem International Convention Center, September 18 at the Gilboa Amphitheater and September 19 at the Roman Amphitheater in Caesarea.

The best little beer house in Tel Aviv

By SHERYL KATZ

If you're tired of jostling for bar stools and clamoring for drinks in overcrowded bars, the Tel Aviv Brewhouse beckons until the wee hours of the morning. Co-owner Erez Toerin, who spent a year in Austria earning his Brewmasters certificate, brews his own beer at the pub and serves it fresh at the bar. His place is the first of its kind here and one of 4,000 worldwide.

Overlooking the plush interior of the pub is a cool, glass brewing room where four kinds of natural beer are concocted on site. The precision required for the beer-making process (21 days and 8 hours) inspired interior designers Gadi Tzabari and Eran Ben-Yosif to use time as a motif – 12 wooden beams cover the ceiling above the bar, the mechanics of a clock decorate one wall, and an hour-glass hangs from another.

Everything is handmade, with amazing attention to detail. The wood of the bar is made from 150-year-old railway sleepers imported from Holland, copper columns reach from floor to ceiling like the innards of a steam locomotive and each beer-bottle chandelier casts an orange glow, creating the warm, tingling feeling of a sip of beer. The background music tends to be of the easy-listening sort, such as Elton John ballads, and you can conduct a conversation without having to shout.

The menu promises that "drinking beer fresh from the production line is like drinking milk straight from the cow." All the Brewhouse beers are lagers, non-pasteurized and without preservatives. The most popular is the Master's, a dark, strong, foamy, full-bodied, bitter beer with 6% alcohol, based on a 150-year-old recipe. *Blondelight* is a light-colored beer with a delicate taste, low in calories – for those concerned with their diet – and containing 3.7% alcohol. *Moonshine* is a balanced, bitter, reddish lager that smells like honey and contains 4.7% alcohol. It is traditionally brewed during the full moon – the recipe dates back to 1844. The last beer is *Quantum*, a very bright, golden-colored pilsner. It is more bitter than *Moonshine* and has the same alcohol content.

The beers are served in attractive custom-made glasses. The cost of a small beer (0.3 liters) is NIS 14 while a half liter costs NIS 18. One can also order a tasting plate of all four labels (0.2 liters each), for NIS 25.

If beer doesn't whet your appetite, there is an extensive wine and beverage menu. "Since a beer-drinking culture in Israel is somewhat lacking, the Brewhouse had to be predominantly a restaurant," says one of the Brewhouse partners Shai Oved.

The food menu was designed to complement beer. It ranges from small courses (such as the Malaysian Satay in coconut sauce), to appetizers, main courses, salads (the assorted mushroom salad in teriyaki sauce is a must), fish and sea foods and desserts (like coconut ice cream with pecan shavings in hot toffee sauce).

Prices are average and the Brewhouse appeals to a wide variety of people – from high-profile businessmen who come for lunch, to families who come in the early evening, to the partygoers who come after 9:30 p.m. and stay till dawn.

The Tel Aviv Brewhouse is open seven days a week from 12 noon for business lunches, until 4 in the morning. In the evenings, reservations are a must. Call (03) 516-8666.

Tel Aviv Brewhouse, 11 Rothschild, Tel Aviv

Film directors on my mind

Actor Yair Lotan talks about his favorite auteurs

Actor Yair Lotan, one of the candidates for the "Personalities of the Year" award, is one of the young stars of Channel 1's *Zap 1*. In addition to being an actor, he has just received his degree as a film director from Tel Aviv University. Lotan began his career as a model in New York City at 22. He worked for Ford Modeling Agency in Gucci and Armani campaigns that appeared in *Vogue* magazine, and did street theater in the East Village. But the main thing on his mind was film. "I have always loved film," says Lotan, "and that, I believe, is what drew me to acting. When I was a child, my parents moved around a lot and I think that film was one of the few constants for me. It [film] has played a very important part in my life."



with a strong sense of truthfulness and reality that is unshakable. He has a reputation for using amateur actors and bringing out strong, inspiring performances. My favorite films of Lotan's are *Naked* and *Cries and Whispers*."

2. Andre Tarkovsky (Russian) "He has been one of the most powerful influences on me. He creates masterpieces of artistic form and composition, using an abundance of visual language and depth. I admit that you need a little patience to watch his films, but his works *Mirror* and *Nostalgia* changed my perspective of film."

3. Pedro Almodovar (Spanish) "Pedro is a very famous Spanish director. The first time I saw one of his films I was amazed by the colors, the intensity and the artistic point of view that he conveyed. He does very enjoyable films filled with passion and sex such as *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down* and *Matador*."

4. Martin Scorsese (American) "Scorsese helped me grow up in a lot of ways. He is part of the culture of the young American directors who changed filmmaking. He is brutal and shocking and not afraid to convey the extremes in films such as *Taxi Driver*."

5. Peter Greenaway (British) "Greenaway is one of filmmaking's masters. Visually, he makes some of the most beautiful films I've ever seen. He has no qualms about rewriting the rules in every project that he does. He is unique in every aspect of his characters and scripts as seen in the movie *The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover*. His work is not to be missed."

1. Mike Leigh (British) "He directs very powerful films

Hot tip

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN
Tel Aviv

Dig beneath Israel's mainstream theater scene and you will find the cutting edge of dramatic creativity, in top form this weekend.

Tonight and Saturday night, the macabre and hyper-creative Klipa Theater performs *Middle Ages*. A show that defies categorization, this story tantalizes audiences with extravagant motion, images and sounds that are simultaneously decadent and devastating. Created by the feisty, decidedly bold couple Dmitry Tolpenov and Idit Herman, the show plays at 9 both nights, at the ZOA House.

The outer edges of fringe are seen in the form of *Mangroosim*, an untranslatable tale of homeless people, dignity and strange eating habits. Created by longtime choreographer Ruth Zeev-Ayal and performed by Avital Yitzhari-Mizlin, it's also at ZOA House tonight at 9.

Friday afternoon will feature a second showing, starting at 2 p.m. For a dose of only slightly more mainstream theater, try Beit



ZOA House hosts the fringe dance 'Mangroosim.'

Lessin's recent production of *Popcorn* tonight. This play is a pop-culture critique in which a director of slice-and-dice films is

held captive and threatened by two inspired viewers and devoted fans. Starring the eternally spunky Orly Perl, *Popcorn* plays tonight at the

Eretz Yisrael Museum at 8:30. Call (03) 643-6888.

And even the most institutionalized theater in the country – Habimah – presents a story of intrigue and psycho-spiritual drama tonight, as well as Saturday night. Ansky's classic *The Dybbuk* is showing at Habimah, starting at 8:30 p.m.

Continuing along the theme of visual stimulation this weekend, the Tel Aviv Cinematheque hosts the Fourth International Animation Festival. The best description insists that the event involves "Spinal Tap meeting *Blazing Saddles*... only funnier." Gear up for heavy intellectualization of cartoons, with six workshops, 105 movies, 35 screenings, from noon to midnight. Call (03) 691-7181 for details.

Try Nash Didan, an ethnic music group playing at the Center for Performing Arts tonight with the best of their work. Starts at 8:30. Call (03) 692-7700 for details.

Need something even cooler? Jazz in the Studio plays tonight at Open Studio, 24 Cremieux, at 9.

And when sun sets on the weekend, get rhythmic and spiritual at the same time: The Japanese group *Ondekoza* (see feature above) performs at the Mann Auditorium starting at 9 Saturday night. Considered a "special spiritual and dramatic experience." (03) 527-6677.

Jerusalem

Poetry in the spiritual city is on a rampage tonight. "Poetry

Slam" is the name of the game at Yakar, verse is joined by the fitting sound of electric guitar (played by Lee Kaplan), 10 Halamed Heh St., Old Katamon, 9 p.m. (02) 561-2310.

On Friday, move right along to "Inner Dance," a complimentary introductory session of body work offered by a dance/movement therapy and creative dance teacher Eileen. Consider forming a weekly group if you like it. Call (02) 566-2655.

And Points Beyond

Naughty nubles from the North (Haifa region) are invited to this week's Chippendales show, tonight at 9 at Theater North.

If you prefer your men clothed, head instead to the Haifa Museum this evening, for a promising event entitled *Clover Leaf*. Three male dancers present dances with a world beat: Daniel Akilov performs Bukharian and Uzbeki dance, Chen Herszkowitz does Eastern dances; and Raphael Mashlikar dances to Indian steps. Haifa Museum, 26 Shabtai Levi St., Call (03) 523-3115 for details. At 8:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m. today, the Latrun Monastery offers a frightfully civilized event: "Magical Sounds at the Latrun Monastery," a late afternoon of music and wine: Italian and French baroque, Vivaldi, Handel, Telemann. Afterwards, stick around for wine and cheese tastings, at the restaurant Ganei Ayalon. Call (08) 925-5184, or (02) 999-3924.

Weekend Food & Drink



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

mind when you're buying honey is color. Darker honeys (like eucalyptus, buckwheat, etc.) may have a somewhat greater nutritional value, but they are also stronger tasting. Wildflower honey is generally quite pleasant tasting, while citrus honey is generally light both in color and taste. Avocado honey has a strong aroma and flavor that not all people like.

Ideally, honey is best bought unheated in its natural state, even though unheated honey has a tendency to crystallize (lightly heating it or putting the jar in a bowl of hot water will loosen it up again). It is best, however, not to boil it if possible. I find unheated honeys to be richer in flavor than heated.

Dietetic honey (OK)
For those looking to lose weight, Dashkal light honey, made by 778, has much fewer calories than regular honey (20 calories per teaspoon instead of 37).

As frequent readers of this column know, my opinion is that it's better to have less of something really good (and natural) than more of something less tasty and with fewer calories. But for those who must for one reason or another lower their intake of sugar, this product could be helpful. Unfortunately, my tasters found it overly sweet and somewhat cloying in taste.

According to the manufacturer, a regular honey cake contains 4,000 calories, or 250 calories per slice if cut into 16 slices. The following recipe, made with Dashkal, contains 1,000 calories for the whole cake - 112 calories per slice.

DASHKAL HONEY CAKE

5 egg whites
1/4 cup sugar
2 egg yolks
4 Tbsp. oil
1/4 cup Dashkal honey
1 tsp. cinnamon
vanilla extract

1/4 tsp. ground cloves
1 1/2 self-raising flour
1 tsp. liquid artificial sweetener

Beat the egg whites till stiff, adding the sugar while beating. Fold the egg yolks and oil into the mixture until smooth.

Gradually stir in the honey, cinnamon, a few drops of vanilla, cloves and flour. Taste and add the artificial sweetener if a sweeter cake is desired.

Grease a 28cm. long pan and pour the batter inside. Bake at medium heat for 40 minutes.

Real honey (OK)

Since this is the high season for honey, I have just received a bottle of 778's citrus honey at my doorstep. Although the color is attractive, this heated honey has more of a sugary taste with not much character.

Along with it was an easy recipe for chicken with garlic and honey that I thought might be an interesting part of a holiday meal. Although the recipe calls for Telma soy sauce, I recommend using an imported brand. (Real soy sauce is a delicious aged product made of soy, wheat and salt. Israeli soy sauces contain only artificial ingredients.)

CHICKEN WITH GARLIC AND HONEY

The better the brandy you use, the better the final product.

5 Tbsp. soy sauce
5 tsp. 778 citrus honey
2 Tbsp. sugar
2 Tbsp. brandy
5 garlic cloves, chopped

1 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. salt
1 young chicken, cut into 6 pieces

Whisk together all the ingredients except the chicken in a small bowl.

Put the chicken in a large glass (or non-metallic) dish and pour the sauce over. Cover and let marinate for 2-3 hours in the refrigerator.

Line a baking dish with parchment paper or use a baking bag and place the chicken inside. Pour the marinade over and bake at high heat (200°C) for 10 minutes. Lower heat to 180°C and bake an additional 40 minutes until well browned. (Serves 4.)

Sweet gift (good)

Yad Mordechai, the largest honey producer in Israel, produces several different kinds of honey (including citrus, wildflower, avocado, eucalyptus, onion flower, and za'atar). Various honey-based products (like honey and nut combinations, lemon, orange, apple, and banana-infused honey), and honeycomb and honey byproducts. Several of Yad Mordechai's gift packages have won awards for creative packaging.

A reasonably priced present I received this week was a triangular package of honey together with a spiral wood honey-dipper. It's a nice present to bring a cousin or aunt and sells for only NIS 29.95. A more expensive gift contains candlesticks, honeycomb candles and a test-tube-like bottle of honey for NIS 49.90.



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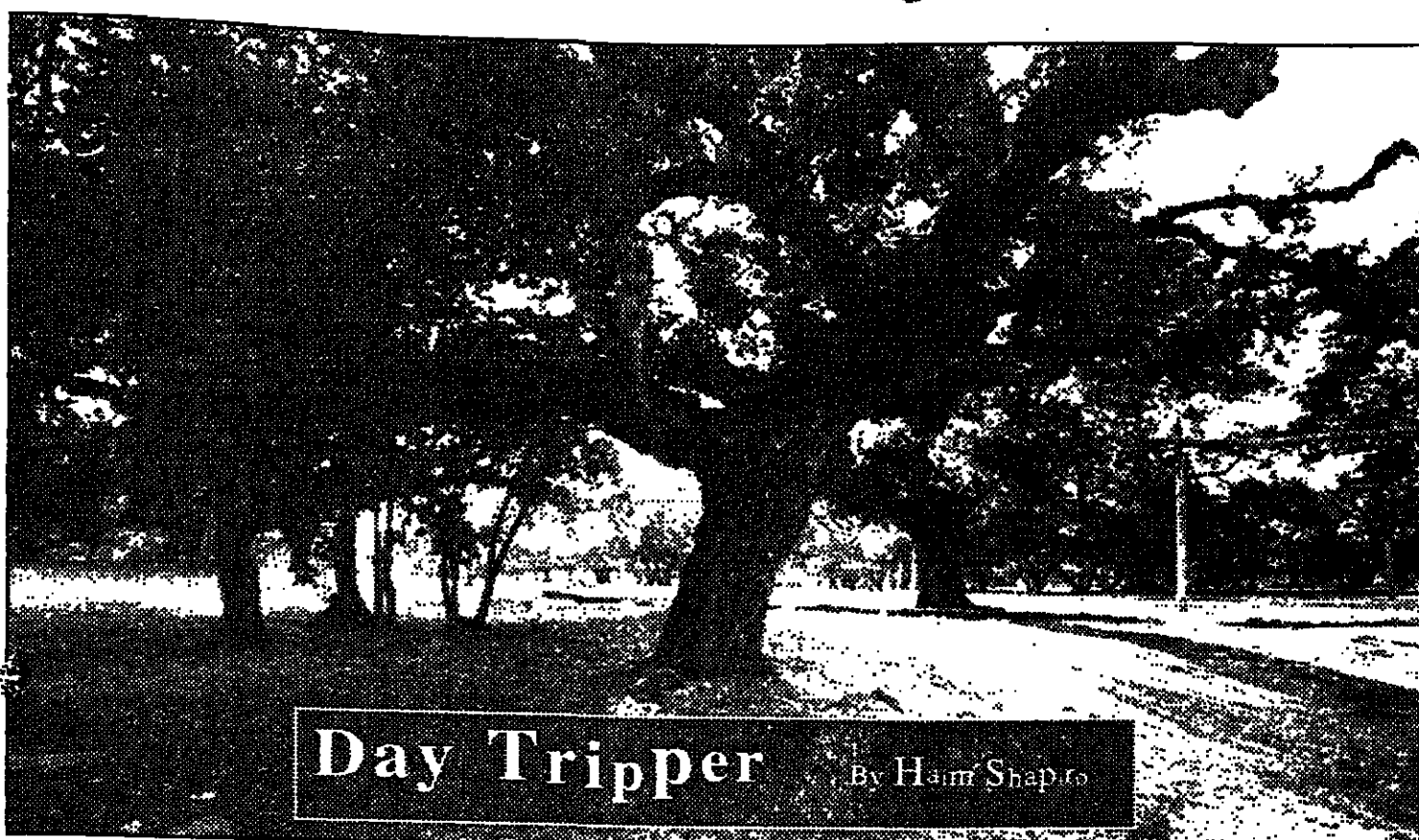
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Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

According to local legend, when Mohammed's warriors came to Horshat Tal seeking shade, their staffs were miraculously transformed into towering trees. The most impressive sights at the park today remain the many giant oak trees, said to be up to 700 years old.



Located just northeast of Kiryat Shmona, the park extends over 500 dunams, encompassing the Tal Spring, which is one of the tributaries of the Dan. (Photos: Sarit Uziely)



On hot summer days, area campers pass the hours on Horshat Tal's water slides.

I spent my childhood in a place where swimming meant entering an icy lake - whatever the time of year. Having said that, I have to admit that even thinking about jumping into really cold water can send my body into a state of shock.

My last such experience was at Horshat Tal, a national park which is part of the newly combined National Parks Authority and Nature Reserves Authority, now known as the Israel Nature and National Parks Protection Authority.

Located on Highway 99, just northeast of Kiryat Shmona, the park extends over 500 dunams

encompassing the Tal Spring, which is one of the tributaries of the Dan.

At its center and its focal point is a small artificial lake, built for swimming. Unfortunately, the lake has been divided into deep and shallow areas by a series of metal bars, which may be functional, but detract from the beauty of the site.

On the day I visited, the park was filled with adults and children, including many day campers from the Arab and Druse villages in the area, all enjoying the water.

The park is for those who like their nature under control, rather than running wild. There are vast

expanses of lawns and a series of water slides, for larger children and adults, as well as for small children. The aroma of grilling lamb permeates the area.

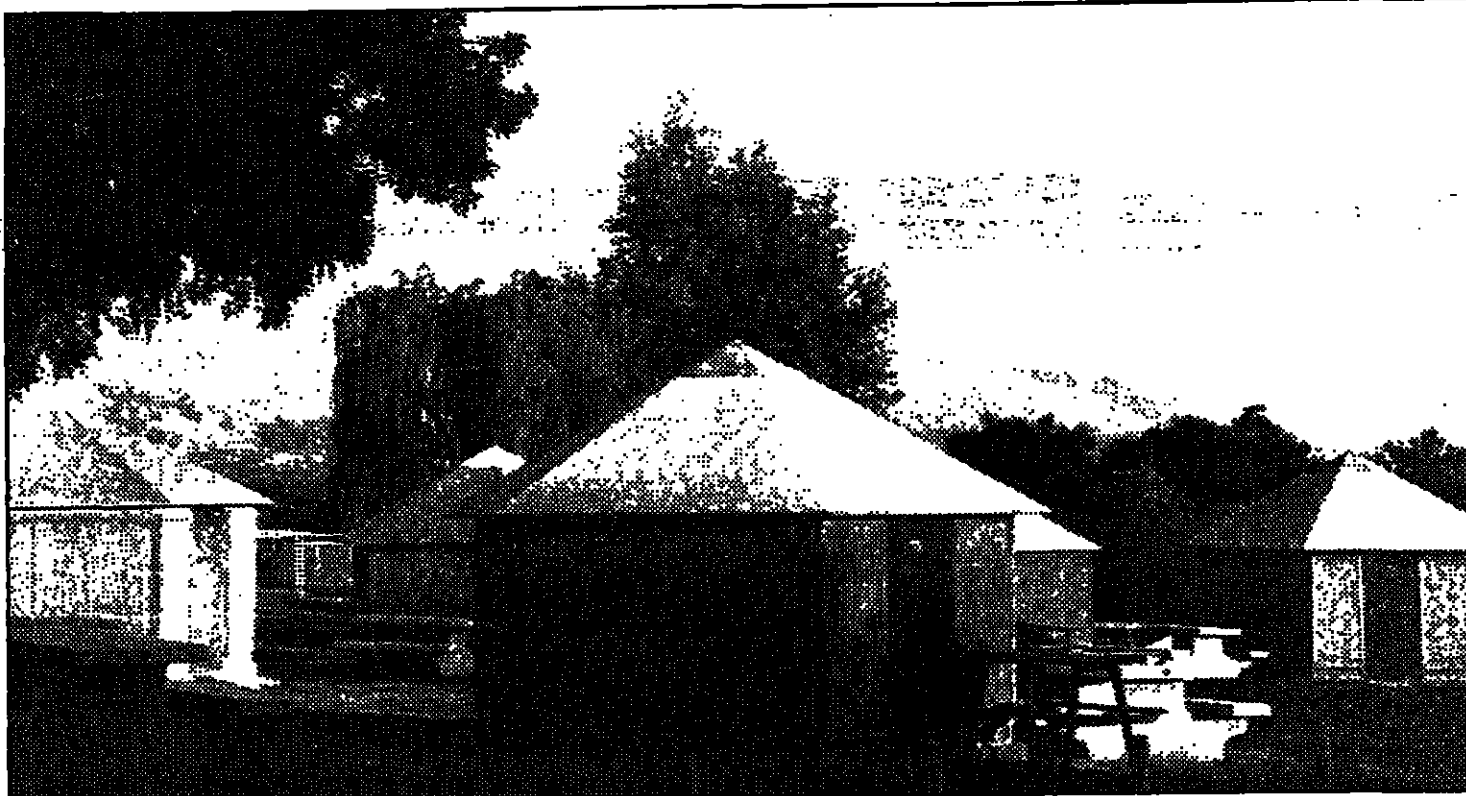
For the visitor, the most impressive sights are the many giant oak trees, said to be up to 700 years old. Many of these trees have been salvaged after huge branches collapsed. Today, over a decade after this work was begun, we are starting to see the results. In places where one of the trees has fallen over, you can see that the roots are very shallow, although they spread over a large area.

According to local Arab legend, 10 of Mohammed's warriors came to

the spot on a hot summer day, seeking shade. When they could not find any, they simply stuck their staffs in the ground, tied their horses to the staffs and went to sleep. When they awoke, they found that their staffs had been transformed into towering shade trees. The legend has served to make the area a holy place for the local Arabs, which in turn has helped save the trees from destruction.

For visitors who want to stay overnight, the park has a special area for camping, as well as simple four-bed bungalows, with nearby toilets, showers and cooking facilities.

For information, tel. (06) 694-2360.



For overnight visitors, the park has a special area for camping, as well as simple four-bed bungalows with nearby toilets, showers and cooking facilities.

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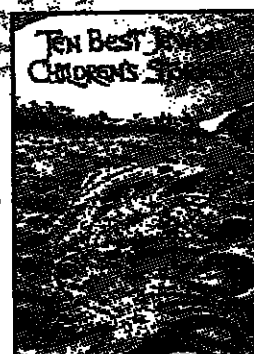
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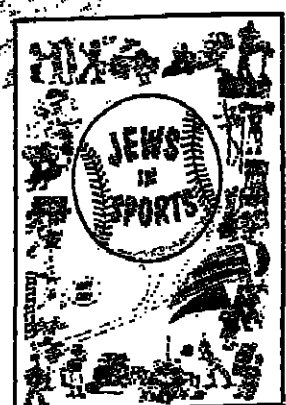
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Weekender Leisure

Street Snapping

Not long ago I found myself alone in Tel Aviv with time to kill and a camera. It was late afternoon, and both the city and the light were mellowing. So I stationed myself on a bench in Nahlat Binyamin to do a spot of street photography.

My first picture was a man eating a meal on one side of a tree and a cat eating on the other, each totally unaware of the other. Next, I caught a large dog blissfully sleeping on a pile of "ends" in one of the local "shmitta" shops. Though I always try to be unobtrusive, the click of my camera woke him up, much to his annoyance.

My shots usually gravitate toward the amusing. People let their hair down in the street, where contrasting fragments of life are thrown together. The result is sometimes candid and funny, at other times sad, or even tragic and violent.

Exactly when photographers began photographing street life is hard to say. Taking inconspicuous pictures of city denizens was certainly aided by the invention of small hand-held cameras in the late 1920s. From the '30s to the present, street photography has become a legitimate pursuit, accepted by many museums and critics as pure photographic art.

Where street photography

began is easier to pinpoint. In Europe, it was the beloved Paris of Eugene Atget. With an unerring eye for composition, Atget pictured the city's backstreet, common folk, particularly in the early morning.

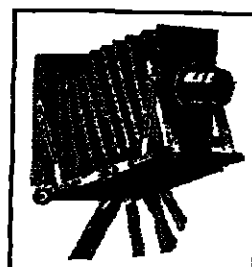
Atget's pioneering work was followed by Brassai, who was obsessed with Paris after dark. He captured the drifters, the elderly, the drunks, the impassive prostitutes and the dull-eyed criminals sitting in cafes.

More recently, Robert Doisneau photographed the anonymous minor events of Paris streets with an "attitude of amused benevolence" and "in love with everything I see." Doisneau also charmingly adds, "what determines the right distance between subject and lens is my shyness."

In America, the focal center of street photography has been New York City.

Much of the impetus for the New York style of street photography came from the Photo League School (1938-1952), most of whose members were Jewish. According to George Gilbert's *Jewish Who's Who in Photography*, members of the league saw "the photograph as a social document," and defined their tradition as one of "honest" photography.

But no league member could



On Camera
By David Brauner



Street photography: Sleeping guard dog in Tel Aviv's Nahlat Binyamin Street

(Photos: David Brauner)

make a living off street pictures. Rather, recording the secret moments and fleeting truths of New

York's underbelly was an obsession. Perhaps no former league member was more adamant in his prowls of New York's potential for variety than Leon Levenstein.

For Levenstein, the streets, parks and beaches of New York were open season for 40 years. As a photographer, he was fearless and constantly on the move. He would cradle his camera in his arm and look away, then move in to shoot at point-blank range. Lovers, sleepers, the burnt backs of workers, the bare feet of the poor and the gangsters' fancy shoes all featured in Levenstein's huge montage of New York's alleys and byways.

Because New York is so large and imposing, many photographers prefer to confine themselves to small areas. In the late '60s, Bruce Davidson spent over two years photographing one particular block on East 100th Street in Harlem. As a white man in a black slum ghetto, he had no hope of hiding his presence. So Davidson decided against "the shoot-and-run techniques of the hand-held camera," and instead opted for the large view (below) camera on a tripod, thus forcing himself to be "open, planted and vulnerable."

Davidson used his consequent

exhibition and book "as a lever to get funds and other sorts of assistance for the neighborhood." He also gave away thousands of prints and copies of the book to every resident on the block.

Here in Israel, street photography seems to work best among the natural curiosities of Tel Aviv. Photographers like Micha Bar-Am, Joel Kantor, Barry Frydlander and especially Alex Levac have, to one degree or another, expressed the subtle, daily clash of the European experience in the Mediterranean climate as reflected on the streets of Israel's one true metropolis.

Borrowing a phrase from Virginia Woolf, photo writer David Finn refers to the stories, the incongruities and the sheer living of city street life as "moments of being."

Street photography takes that

moment of being and fixes it forever.

Your photography questions and

comments are welcome. Contact

David Brauner, e-mail: morrir

@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for

David" in the subject line) or fax

(02) 563-7792 or c/o Photo

Archives, The Jerusalem Post,

P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Bridge

Israeli pair wins second world

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
East-West vulnerable

North (Katz)
♠ K J 6
♥ J 7
♦ J 8 7
♣ K Q 10 7 6

West East
♠ Q 10 7 ♠ A 2
♥ 9 8 6 ♥ 10 4 2
♦ K Q 9 4 3 ♦ 6 5 2
♣ 9 5 ♣ A J 8 4 3

South (Rand)
♠ 9 8 5 4 3
♥ A K Q 5 3
♦ A 10
♣ 2

South West North East
1 ♠ pass 2 ♠ pass
2 ♥ pass 2 ♠ pass
3 ♥ pass 3 ♠ pass
4 ♠ (all pass)

Opening lead: ♦K

The big news this week in Lille, France, site of the 1998 World Bridge Olympiad, was the victory of 89-year-old Boris Schapiro, of England, in the Senior Pairs.

In Israel, the big news was the second consecutive gold medal for Nissan Rand and Moshe Katz of Tel Aviv in the Senior Teams. Their teammates were Karl Rohan and Franz Baratta of Austria and Christo Drumev of Bulgaria. All but Drumev were on the winning team four years ago, too.

They defeated a team from Poland (Szenberg, Wilkosz, Klukowski and Jezioro) by the amazing score of 62-10-0 in the final. In fact, this was the half-time score after 14 boards, and the Polish team conceded.

Rohan told of the very first hand of the tournament — a hand that was dealt at the table. He picked up eight solid hearts and five diamonds to the ace-king.

His RHO opened the bidding one club. Rohan decided to overcall seven hearts! He felt that scientific measures would never enable him to learn whether his partner had third-round control of diamonds. He was also fearful that his opponents might have a good sacrifice in spades.

The next player doubled, and after the opening lead, Rohan saw in dummy four trumps and a sin-

gleton diamond. So the grand slam was made. At the other table they stopped in six hearts.

"When this happened on the very first hand," said Rohan, "I felt that this was going to be our tournament."

TODAY'S deal is the third deal from the final match. The two North/South pairs, Klukowski/Jezioro and Rand/Katz bid to four spades by South. In the auction shown, South opened one spade and rebid hearts twice, showing 5-5 shape. North chose spades and South settled in four spades. West led the king of diamonds.

When declarer was Klukowski, he won the ace of diamonds and led a low spade to the 7 and jack. He was hoping for a 3-2 division in trumps with both the ace and queen of spades with West.

But when the jack of spades lost to the ace, he had to lose two trump tricks in addition to a trick in each minor suit, for down one.

In the other room, Rand played differently and brought home his game. He also won the diamond lead with the ace, but then led the eight of spades.

When West followed with the seven (a delicate mistake), Rand played low from dummy and this forced the ace. On the next round of trumps, Rand was able to finesse West's queen-10 of spades by leading to the king-jack of spades in dummy and pick up ♠ trump suit for only one loser.

Four hundred and twenty points at one table and 50 at the other meant 10 imps to the Rand-Katz team.

In theory, Rand's play was against the odds, because West can foil his plan by covering the eight of spades with either the 10 or queen. If West had covered, he could also cover the nine on the subsequent round (if declarer chose to play this way) and force two trump tricks for the defense.

This was difficult to see at the table, because Rand had carefully led the 8 instead of the 9 on the first round. In practice, Rand's play will work whenever West holds the queen and 10.

If West had covered without long thought, Rand would probably lead a low trump on the second round of spades, playing West for a doubleton.

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by e-mail at gran@nervision.net.il

Chess will return next week



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DRIVE CAREFULLY

Make your new year a fragrant one

The price wars between fragrance, skin-care and cosmetics retailers have made it a little easier to purchase luxury gifts for Rosh Hashana. All major retailers are competing heavily with the duty-free stores, and some are offering discounts as high as 60 percent.



Better still, some places let you pay in as many as six installments, and if you pay by credit card you get whatever extra bonus your credit-card company is currently offering. Unless you overspend, you just can't lose.

The only head-ache is to decide what to buy.

If you're buying gifts for someone else, there's no point in testing

a fragrance on yourself because it won't smell the same on the recipient of your gift.

Finding out what the other person usually wears is also pointless, because the whole joy of gift giving is to present someone with something they might delight in but would not necessarily buy for themselves.

Sometimes it's the packaging that catches the eye. Sometimes it's the brand name. In the case of perfumes, it's most often the general allure of the fragrance.

Those of us who don't make a habit out of going through the testers in perfume boutiques are drawn to the scent exuded by someone in our circle. So if something grabs your olfactory senses, regardless of who may be wearing it, go for it.

ONE OF the best incentives going is from Calvin Klein. Anyone who buys NIS 249 or more worth of Calvin Klein's Obsession, Escape or Contradiction products gets a trio of black zip-up 100% nylon cosmetic bags held together by a key ring. They contain a set of Eternity spray perfume, body polisher, body lotion and moisturizing shower gel. The bags are also ideal for holding paper money, tissues,

Flair
By Greer Fay Cashman

passports and spare pantyhose. If you're looking for an intriguing fragrance in equally intriguing



packaging, go for Yohji Essential, which is delicately sensual without being overpowering.

The long, slender tube-like bottle is wrapped in cherry-red tissue paper and set in a slim, plexiglass box. All packed up, it looks more like a candle, which promises a pleasant surprise once it is unwrapped.

If you've been checking the billboards, you must have seen the Davidoff Good Life posters featuring

some classy-looking young men, who symbolize exactly what the fragrance is meant to convey. And indeed, it is different from the usual men's aftershave — more sophisticated, more refined, less tangy. If there's a special man in your life, this is the fragrance which will make him stand out from the crowd.

For younger men try Bad Boys, a German-made product that is part of an aftershave, deodorant and gel series. Distributed here by local cosmetics manufacturer Flavin, the elegant bottle is designed like a nail-studded whiskey flask, except that only the top is chrome. The rest is glass. The fragrance itself is clean and fresh. Grey Flannel, which bears the signature of topflight American fashion designer

Geoffrey Beene, is a little too medicinal for my taste, but it comes in a cute drawstring gray pouch.

Some people steer clear of perfumes that contain alcohol. If you or the recipient of your gift are in that category, you can feel perfectly safe buying Jean Paul Gaultier's Latino Summer, which complements Gaultier's summer '98 collection.

The famous dressmaker-dummy bottles that are his hallmark are decorated with the fabric pattern of

his Latino look. Like the dresses, the perfume is intended for only one season, so if you like it, buy more than one bottle. Once stocks are exhausted, they won't be replenished.

By the way, if you're a timid shopper, don't spoil your new year



by going into the wrong store. Do your fragrance shopping in a department store, rather than a pharmacy or a perfumery. Department-store staff tend to leave you alone, so that you can try and buy at your leisure.

In the other stores, they are more likely to pounce on you as soon as you so much as look at anything, and sometimes the pressure is such that you find yourself buying something you don't really want or can't afford.

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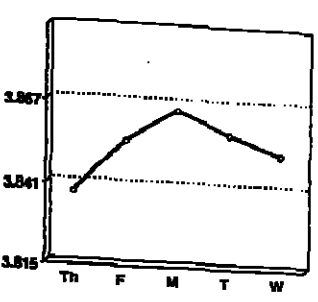
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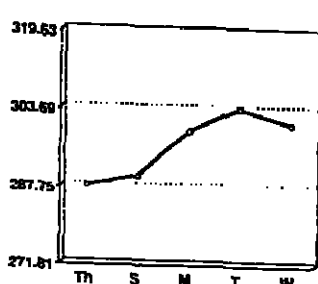
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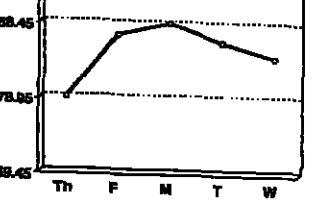


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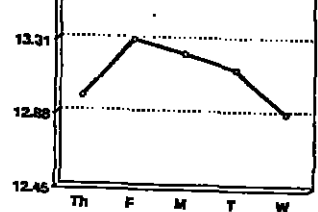
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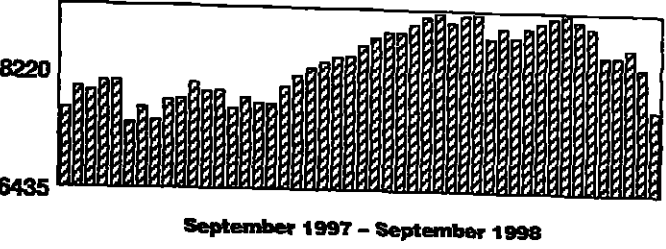


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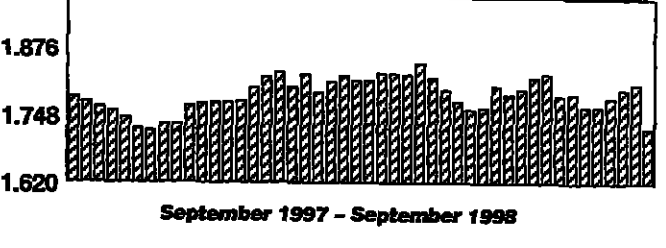
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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Average home's gross income at NIS 10,520

The average household's gross income, where the main provider was a wage earner, was NIS 10,520 last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Jerusalem Post Staff

IDB buys 33% of Ilanot Batucha

Israel Discount Bank announced yesterday it has signed an agreement for the purchase of 33.3 percent of Ilanot Batucha, the country's largest investment house.

As a result of the deal, to be carried out via a stock swap, IDB is to transfer all its portfolio and mutual fund management and underwriting to Ilanot Batucha, which manages assets worth NIS 10 billion. Ilanot Batucha, which prior to the deal was jointly owned by Clal and Discount Investments, will now be one-third owned by all the partners. Ilanot Batucha was created a year and a half ago through the merger of Ilanot Discount and Batucha Securities and Investments.

Nina Gilbert

Romania courts Israeli cell-phone operators

BUCHAREST - The Romanian government is inviting Israeli companies Clal and Miloutor to participate in tenders to expand its cellular phone network, one of the fastest growing in Eastern Europe, Romanian Privatization Minister Sorin Dimitriu said yesterday.

There are currently one million cell phone users in Romania, and Dimitriu said the business has been twice as profitable as investors originally forecast.

Romania expects the market to grow to 14 million users in three years, Dimitriu told *The Jerusalem Post*. The contract for expanding the market could be worth up to \$75 million to the successful contractors, experts here estimate. French and Italian companies are also expected to bid.

Thomas O'Dwyer

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Bids must also comply with the conditions contained in Para. 0.18 of the Administration Section of the regulations.

A meeting for bidders will take place on September 17, 1998, in the Pal-Yam Building, 11 Pal-Yam, Haifa, at 10:00 a.m. The tender documents may be obtained from September 13, at the Information Systems and Communications Division, Room 1113, 11th Floor, 11 Sderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, Tel. 04-868 7378, Sunday - Thursday, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., on submission of a receipt, demonstrating payment (non-refundable) of NIS386 (including VAT) into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank.

Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address, or by calling 04-868 7378.

Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused at the above offices.

Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and placed in the tenders box in the Pal-Yam Building, 11th floor, by the last date for submitting bids, which is October 13, 1998, at 3:00 p.m.

The Corporation reserves the right to conduct negotiations, with various bidders.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

The tender documents may be read on the IEC's Internet site: WWW.ISRAEL-ELECTRIC.CO.IL

תדירות חשמל

Japan cuts call rate to 0.25%

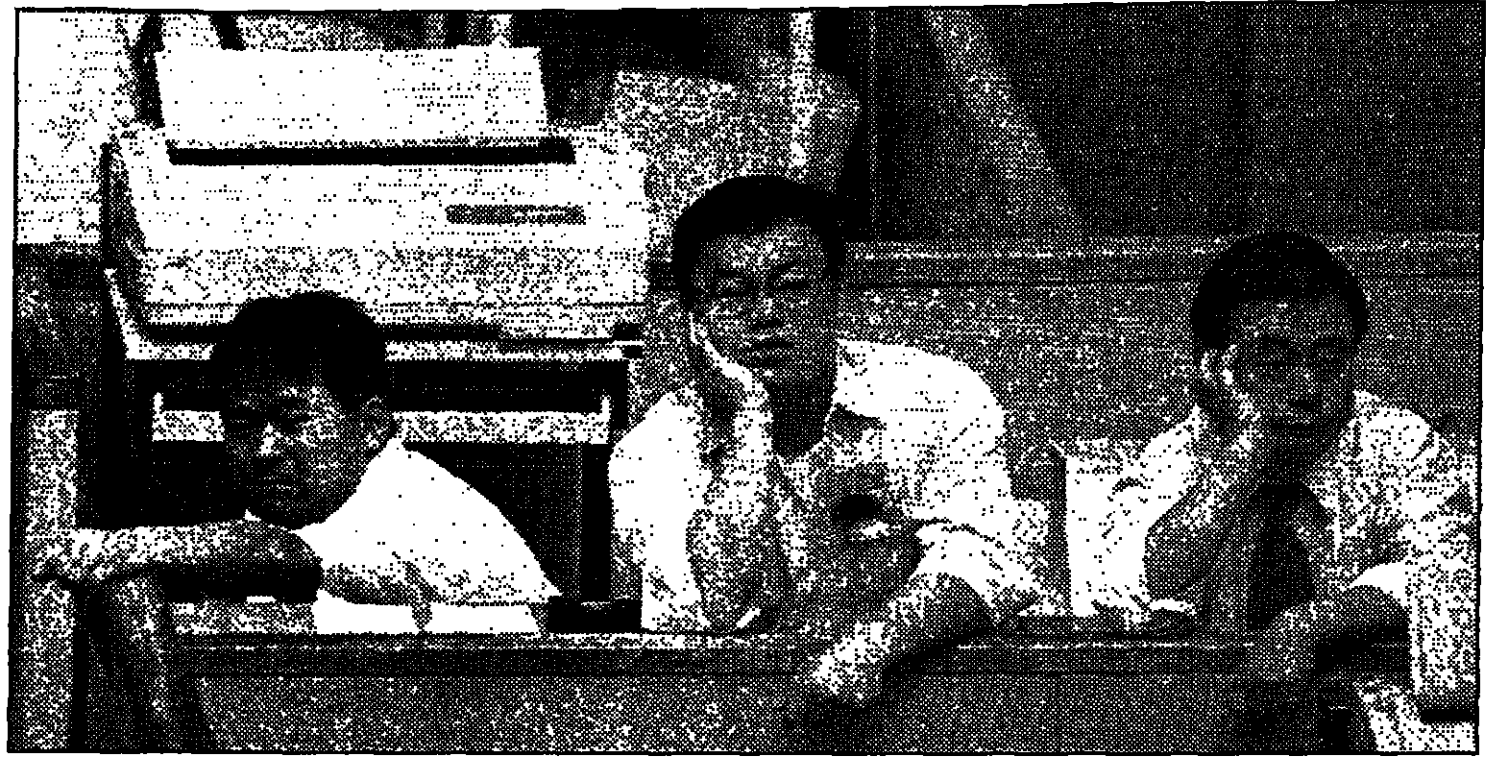
TOKYO (Reuters) - In a sign of growing concern about its ailing economy and fragile banking system, Japan's central bank said yesterday it would ease monetary policy by guiding a key short-term interest rate lower.

The Bank of Japan - in its first monetary policy change in almost exactly three years - said in a statement that its policy board had agreed by a majority vote to guide the overnight call rate on average to around 0.25 percent.

The central bank also said it would seek to expand money supply by providing ample liquidity and increase liquidity injections if needed, regardless of the call rate - the rate at which private banks lend to each other overnight and the Bank of Japan's main policy tool.

Japan's official discount rate, the rate at which the central bank lends to private banks, has been stuck at a record low 0.5% since September 8, 1995, when the Bank of Japan also decided to guide the call rate somewhat below that level.

"The Bank of Japan decided it was appropriate to take this measure to ease monetary policy to ensure the economy does not worsen further and to prevent the economy from falling into a deflationary spiral," the bank said in a statement.



Traders on the Tokyo Stock Exchange ponder the meaning of yesterday's surprise rate cut by the Bank of Japan, as the Nikkei average fell more than 1%. See page 17.

"For the Japanese economy at present, recovery and rebuilding of the financial system are issues that do not allow a moment's respite." Japan's economy slipped into recession earlier this year and remains burdened by a fragile banking system, prompting the central bank's policy to mull emergency policy steps to cope with possible downside risks as early as a July meeting.

R. Eitan abandons budget qualms

By NINA GILBERT

Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday announced he is rescinding his opposition to the proposed 1999 budget.

"I have arrived at a full understanding with Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman," Eitan said, "and I now support the budget proposal."

However, Eitan's spokesman said he was refusing to divulge the details of his agreement with Neeman.

"Everything will become apparent during the cabinet discussion," he said.

Eitan was known to be demanding extra assistance for agricultural production and exports as well as cancellation of an eight percent rise in water rates for farmers.

This afternoon, the cabinet is due to resume its discussion of the Treasury's plan for spending the NIS 173 billion state budget, depending on whether Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's health improves, the Prime Minister's Office said last night.

Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky called on the government yesterday to hold a "real and principled discussion" on the basic foundations of the budget spending package.

Sharansky has threatened to resign if the Treasury does not give NIS 230m. in funding in accordance with the Gabbai Committee's decision. He is accusing the Treasury of not upholding agreements.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza also said yesterday that he would vote against the budget because "the Treasury does not honor agreements." Matza is demanding that the Treasury transfer the NIS 350m. owed to the health funds. There is also "no way" he will agree to cuts, his spokesman said.

Meanwhile, Communications Minister Limor Livnat, who was previously believed to be backing the budget, said yesterday she would not support it "in its present form," her spokeswoman said last night.

Livnat is calling for a budget that will spur growth, especially via infrastructure and R&D investment. She said that the government should prioritize its resources and not give funds to "sectors which do not need these sums."

Education Minister Yitzhak Levy said he would oppose the budget if he did not get funding for implementing a five-year plan for the Beduin and Arab sectors.

Pushing the panic button?

ANALYSIS

By NINA GILBERT

LONDON (Reuters) - The Bank of Japan's decision yesterday to lower its overnight call rate has put the yen on a slippery slope lower as markets see the move as a confirmation of Japan's deep economic problems, analysts said.

The BOJ said it would guide the overnight call rate, down to 0.25 percent after having kept it close to the official discount rate at 0.5%.

"It's clearly very negative," said Avinash Persaud, head of currency research at JP Morgan in London. "It gives a clear idea of the government's priorities by showing that it is willing to sacrifice the recent strength of the yen."

The BOJ's policy-making board said that it will supply as much liquidity into the market as needed regardless of the target for the overnight call rate, which is the rate banks use to lend funds to each other.

Analysts said a recent strengthening of the yen gave the BOJ a window of opportunity to preempt a credit crunch. The BOJ has effectively turned itself into a lender of last resort to Japan's banking system which is facing severe liquidity problems.

"It smacks of a panic move," said Tony Norfield, head of global treasury research at ABN AMRO. "It still leaves open the burning question whether Japan will be able to sort out its banking sector problems, and that should weigh on the yen."

The banking system's woes have been compounded by a rapid rise in non-performing loans, made worse still by the Asian economic crisis.

Efforts by the government of Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi to reform the banking sector have been hampered by political differences over measures to wind up failed banks and how to handle weak but viable banks.

Norfield argued that a sharp expansion of money supply could help offset the risk of deflation looming over Japan.

The Economic Planning Agency warned in its August economic report on Tuesday the economy was on the verge of a deflationary spiral.

But the credit easing is expected to do little to boost growth, analysts said, and it may even heighten the pessimism of Japanese savers.

Historically low interest rates have had little effect on Japanese domestic spending. Japan is mired in recession even though the official discount rate has been at a record low of 0.5% since September 1995.

Analysts expect the yen to move through 140 per dollar soon after the Japanese currency suffered one of its worst one-day losses yesterday.

The yen dropped to a low of 137.63 per dollar after the BOJ announcement after having retented a 4-1/2 month high near 130.45 during Asian trading yesterday. Less than a month ago, it hit an eight-year low at 147.63.

Governor Masaru Hayami dampened speculation that Japan's move was part of a coordinated round of rate cuts by other major industrialized nations. The BOJ easing was not discussed internationally, Hayami said.

But his comment sent the yen even lower as foreign exchange markets were gripped by speculation that the US Federal Reserve might follow suit with a credit easing.

in US rates will be a cut heightened last week after Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan said he no longer saw inflation as the biggest threat to the US economy.

BOJ Governor Hayami said he expected the yen's weakness to be temporary and that the currency would rebound. But currency analysts said a dollar/yen move back up through 140 yen was only a matter of time now.

"I'm still reluctant to say dollar/yen will rise above 150 now but a move to somewhere between 140 and 150 is a pretty obvious scenario now," said Norfield at ABN AMRO.

Yen losses are likely to be stemmed by speculation about a

US interest rate cut and the expected repatriation of funds by Japanese investors ahead of the end of September, the half-way stage of Japan's fiscal year.

Given the easing in Japanese rates, a further weakening of the yen is less likely to be fought with intervention. The BOJ and the Fed joined forces in June by selling dollars for yen.

"The expansion of money supply argument effectively contradicts the usefulness of intervention," said Norfield. By intervening to buy yen, the BOJ would be removing the amount of Japanese currency in circulation. To counteract the impact this would have on its domestic money market, it will have to add liquidity, which would only serve to depress rates in the money market further.

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| | |
|------|---------|
| LAST | CHANGE* |
| 14.5 | -0.3125 |

| | LAST | CHANGE |
|---------|---------|--------|
| 14.5 | -0.3125 | |
| 123.813 | -2.125 | |
| 26.125 | -0.625 | |
| 47.8125 | +0 | |
| 9.8375 | -0.5 | |
| 13.0625 | -0.375 | |
| 40.5625 | +0.5625 | |

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|----------------|---------|---------|
| Class | 23.5825 | +0.8775 |
| Co Corp | 48.6875 | +0.8775 |
| ask Inc | 23.5 | -1.375 |
| Gas Systems | 214.125 | +0.1125 |
| Energy Co | 11.75 | -0.125 |
| Stock B'gram | 11.75 | -0.5 |
| Amers Shp | 16.8125 | -0.8875 |
| ens Coming | 35.5 | -0.8875 |
| C Financial | 45.9125 | -1.125 |
| Industries | 33.875 | -0.75 |
| car Inc | 42.9125 | -0.8875 |
| Corp | -22.5 | -0.1875 |
| Enterprises | - | -0.8825 |
| Gas & Elec | 31.5 | -0.125 |
| Corp | 21.975 | +0.125 |
| ker Drilling | 4.9375 | -0.1875 |
| ker Hamlin | 21.9375 | -0.1875 |
| less Shp | 42.975 | -0.1875 |
| ney(JC) | 50 | -0.5875 |
| ney Pet L | 23.9375 | -0.25 |
| nzal | 37.9375 | -1.125 |
| ogy Energy | 34.125 | -1 |
| osco | 30 | -1.5 |
| kin Elmer | 69.9375 | -1.1875 |
| er | 88.1875 | -2.5 |
| Systems & Upr | 11.75 | -1.375 |
| os Dodge | 47.75 | -0.25 |
| os Elec | 30.975 | -0.125 |
| os Inc | 40.975 | +0.25 |
| os Elec | 62.32 | -1.75 |
| os Pet | 44.0625 | -0.5875 |
| os Pet | 5.5125 | -0.6875 |
| key Hired | 21.9375 | -0.0825 |
| key Down | 50.875 | -0.8825 |
| key Met Sys | 42.925 | -0.4225 |
| os | 10.875 | -0.125 |
| os Corp | 54.975 | -0.5 |
| om E Plur | 24.25 | -0.25 |
| os & Gamble | 71.875 | -0.75 |
| os Hotel Cor | 20.9375 | -0.8875 |
| os Sec Enterpr | 35.675 | +0.125 |
| os Shd Par | 25.125 | -0.125 |
| oskar Data | 54.125 | -0.3825 |
| os | 49.5 | -0.5 |
| os | 25.4375 | +0.875 |
| os | 23.9125 | -0.125 |
| os | 23.8875 | -1.125 |
| os | - | -0.125 |
| os | 28.875 | -0.25 |
| os | 43.375 | -0.5875 |
| os | 44.8875 | -0.25 |
| os | 15.9375 | -0.25 |
| os | 24.9375 | -1.8825 |
| os | 13.25 | -0.25 |
| os | 23.5 | -0.5 |
| os | 38.9375 | -0.4875 |
| os | 40.0625 | -1.1875 |
| os | 28.125 | -0.125 |
| os | 11.475 | -0.4875 |
| os | 48.125 | -1.1875 |
| os | 18.0625 | -0.1875 |
| os | 21.1875 | -0.5 |
| os | 30.1125 | -0.275 |
| os | 23.825 | +0.5 |
| os | - | - |
| os Technology | 38.75 | -1.8125 |
| os | 42.0625 | -1.8125 |
| os | 30.25 | -0.125 |
| os | 31.375 | -0.375 |
| os | 52.1875 | -0.875 |
| os | 42.9375 | -1.525 |
| os | 48.0625 | -1.4375 |
| os | 19.75 | -0.25 |
| os | 45.125 | -1.1875 |
| os | 20.375 | +0.0825 |
| os | 42.0625 | -0.875 |
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| os | 35.375 | -0.6825 |
| os | 21.875 | -0.125 |
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| os | 21.875 | -0.125 |
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| os | 29.825 | -0.125 |
| os | 30.0625 | -0.25 |
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| os | 30.75 | -0.25 |
| os | 30.75 | -0.4875 |
| os | 30.875 | -0.125 |
| os | 34.525 | -0.125 |
| os | 76.875 | -2.75 |
| os | 47.0625 | -0.5 |
| os | 27.5 | -0.2875 |
| os | 15.9375 | -0.4875 |
| os | 38.8125 | -0.0825 |
| os | 35.5 | -0.5 |
| os | 68.8125 | +0.3125 |
| os | 28.8875 | -0.8875 |
| os | 30.875 | -0.875 |
| os | 10.3125 | -0.4875 |
| os | 30.8125 | -1.875 |
| os | 2.125 | -0 |
| os | 7.9375 | -1.1875 |
| os | 32.0625 | -1.2825 |
| os | 44.75 | -1.5 |
| os | 21.8825 | -0.5 |
| os | 0.8875 | -0 |
| os | 57.8825 | -1.8825 |
| os | 21.8825 | -1.1875 |
| os | 18.5 | -1.2825 |
| os | 22.1875 | -0.4875 |
| os | - | - |
| os | 21.75 | -1.2125 |
| os | 43.0625 | -2.5 |
| os | 43.0375 | -0.5 |
| os | 58.9825 | -0.0825 |
| os | 38.0625 | -1.1875 |

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| Briggs & Stratton | |
| Brink Myrs Sub | |
| Bnt Annes ADR | |
| Bnt Steel ADR | |
| Bnt Telecom | |
| Bocim Group | |
| Brown & Stearns | |
| Browning Farms | |
| Brunswick | |
| Burlington Mtn | |
| Burlington Res | |

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|--------------------|------|--------|
| SS Electronics Ltd | 2.75 | +0.375 |
| Scient Software | | |
| G. Associates | 3 | +0.125 |

[illegible]

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|--------|--------|---------|
| docs | 9.1875 | -0.5625 |
| Source | 14.125 | -0.125 |

| Furniture Brands | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| | Galoot Toys |
| | Gartenway 2000 |
| | Gen Corp |
| | GTE Corp |
| | Gernetti |
| | Gasp Inc Del |
| | Gencomp |
| | Gen Am Invest |
| | Gen Dynamics |
| | Gen Electric |
| | Gen Mills |
| | Gen Motors |
| | Gen Motors H |
| | Gen Public Util |
| | Gen Reinsuranc |
| | Gen Signal |
| | Gen DataComm |
| | Genzyme Parts |
| | Georgia Pac |
| | Gen Energy Fund |
| | Gilberts |
| | Glaxo ADR |
| | Golden W Fin |
| | Goodrich (RF) |

INTERNATIONAL SHAPES

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TASE drops amid global volatility

Tel Aviv

Stocks on the TASE dropped yesterday on concern that wide swings in the world's markets, including Tuesday's surge in US trading, will deter investors from investing in emerging markets and indicate slower growth for economies abroad.

Israel Chemicals Ltd., an exporter of fertilizers, lost 2.4 percent to NIS 4.05. That pushed down the Maof Index of 25 largest companies 1.02 percent to 300.59, with 20 companies dropping, four rising, and one unchanged.

A 5 percent jump in the Dow Jones Industrial Average Tuesday was followed by a 3.5 percent drop on Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index. That is being taken as a sign that the economic woes of Russia and Japan won't be solved soon and may spread elsewhere.

"We are not alone. The whole world [is] one big village," said Zvi Hoffman, managing director at Imvi Securities. "We don't know how '99 will look from the perspective of the world economy."

Hoffman said he hasn't begun buying back equities sold a month ago, before a 12 percent drop in the Maof Index. "I want to see solutions for Russia and Japan, and what [US Federal Reserve Chairman Alan] Greenspan will do with interest rates."

Analysts said the large US gain may signal sharp rises and falls in stocks worldwide, which may lead investors to shy away from emerging markets.

"People think that if New York can go up 5 percent today, it could drop 6 percent tomorrow," said Moshe Jonas, the manager of Moritz & Tuchler's office in Israel. "We'll see volatile markets all over the world, including here. People will think twice before going into emerging markets."

Asia

Japanese stocks fell for the first time in three days as speculation about derivatives losses at Fuji Bank Ltd. raised the specter of similar losses throughout the ailing banking industry.

Bank of Japan, the most active issue, plunged 15 percent following an AFX news wire report, citing unnamed brokers, the bank had 2 trillion yen (\$15.3 billion) to 3 trillion yen in derivatives losses.

The bank denied the speculation and said it actually had unrealized profit on its derivatives trades as of the end of August.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index fell 157.95 points or 1.06 percent to 14,755.54. The broader Topix index of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange slid 15.00 points,

STOCKS

Maof 300.59 ▼ 1.02%
Dow Jones 7,865.02 ▼ 2%
FTSE 5311.3 ▼ 0.6%
Nikkei 14,755.54 ▼ 1.06%

or 1.33 percent, to 1,116.01. An estimated 417 million shares traded, surpassing the six-month daily average of 412 million shares for a fourth day. Losers outpaced winners by 2 to 1 on the first section. Fuji Bank fell 59 yen to 329, with 28.1 million shares traded. Fuji is the main bank in the troubled Fuyo industrial group.

Europe

UK stocks fell for a second day, led by Shell Transport and Trading Co. Plc and financial stocks, whose profits will be hurt if economic problems in Russia and Latin America slow the world economy.

The benchmark FTSE 100 Index fell 32.9 points, or 0.6 percent, to 5,311.3, after earlier rising

as much as 21 points. Stocks reversed gains as the US benchmark Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 1.1 percent to 7,865.02.

The decline of US shares hit British companies which have American depository receipts there. British Telecom Plc fell 12p, or 1.5 percent, to 792, after its ADR dropped 1 percent.

Vodafone Plc declined 13p to 782 after its ADR declined 1 percent to \$129.34.

British American Tobacco Plc rose 13p to 479, extending yesterday's 20.3-percent rise on its first day of trading as a pure tobacco company, after it sold its financial-services interests. Gallaher Group Plc, the UK's largest cigarette maker, rose 5p to 408.

Investors perceive tobacco stocks as immune to a slowing world economy, since smokers typically don't stop smoking even if their incomes decline.

Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks fell sharply yesterday, surrendering a chunk of Tuesday's mammoth gains, as Merrill Lynch and Procter and Gamble provided new reminders of this nation's exposure to the economic turmoil abroad.

A day after posting a record 380-point gain, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 155.76 points — or 2 percent — to 7,865.02, slipping back below this year's starting point of 7,908.25.

Broader stock indicators also gave back more than a third of Tuesday's plunder, which boosted the Dow by 5%.

The Dow now sits about 450 points above the bottom of last week's selloff — which included a 512-point slide two Mondays ago — but remains 15% below the record of 9,337.97 set less than two months ago on 9,337.97.

In a speech Friday evening, Fed chairman Alan Greenspan said the drag from overseas fiscal crises in Asia and Russia may pose more of a risk than inflation and might justify an economy-boosting cut in the central bank's lending rates.

But with Merrill Lynch and Procter and Gamble both stepping forward today with discouraging business updates, investors were quickly reminded that a mounting global recession is already inflicting profit damage at American companies.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell 17.26 to 1,006.20 after gaining nearly 50 points on Tuesday.

The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index fell 36.30 to 1,624.56 after surging a record 94 points on Tuesday.

Dollar soars on Japan rate cut

CURRENCIES

Dollar 3.8510 ▼ 0.156%
Basket 4.1428 ▼ 0.418%
Mark 2.2137 ▼ 0.624%
Sterling 6.3800 ▼ 0.070%

slightly below the 0.50% discount rate at which the central bank lends to commercial banks. "This represents something close to a 20 basis-point easing of money-

conditions for the banks," said David Brickman, an economist at PaineWebber International in London. "By helping the banks, the Bank of Japan hopes to ease the credit crunch and thus encourage banks to lend again."

Policymakers left the discount rate at its record-low 0.5%, where it's been since September 8, 1995.

Even with rates at record lows, Japan's economy is sinking deeper into recession. The Economic Planning Agency on Tuesday lowered its assessment of the economy, saying "the economy is in a prolonged slump, a very severe situation."

The cut "highlights just how fragile the financial system in Japan still is."

The Bank of Japan also agreed to provide more funds to the banking system to stabilize financial markets, if necessary, the bank said in a release.

The Japanese banking system itself may be deteriorating, according to reports earlier in the day. The Japan Times reported that Japan's 19 largest banks hold derivatives contracts that pose credit risks totaling about 24.21 trillion yen (\$183 billion), according to a government document submitted to the Diet, or parliament.

Fuji Bank Ltd. plunged 15% following another report, from the AFA news wire, that the bank had 2 trillion to 3 trillion yen in derivatives losses, citing unnamed brokers.

Gold drops after dollar gains

COMMODITIES

Gold \$284.35 ▼ 1.70%
Crude Oil \$12.88 ▼ 0.11%
CRB 201.72 ▼ 0.80%

and Options Exchange amid concern that a better-than-expected European Union crop will add to a global sugar glut. Refined sugar has been trading at the lowest since exchange records began since late August. Raw sugar fell to an 11-year low in New York on Tuesday.

Recent sugar beet tests carried out in the EU suggest this year's harvest will be better than earlier forecasts after good weather for crops across Europe, analysts said.

Record crops in the EU and Brazil in 1997, combined with sluggish import demand in Asia and Russia, has led to a global sugar glut and depressed futures prices.

The EU harvest "is not going to reach last year's record crop but it's going to be fairly decent," said John Kovacs, an analyst at London-based traders C. Zarnikow Ltd. "There's a lot of sugar around and not much buying."

Coffee for November delivery climbed as much as \$20, or 1.2%, to \$1,702 a metric ton, the highest price for the most active contract since June 12 on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange.

Supplies of London-traded robusta coffee beans are likely to remain low until harvesting begins in Vietnam, Ivory Coast and Uganda in October, analysts say. Roasters need to buy beans in September ahead of peak seasonal demand during the Northern Hemisphere

winter. Coffee has risen 12% in London since July 27 as roasters began to build stockpiles.

Coffee growers "have backed away from the market," said Ross Prior, an analyst at ABN Amro Chicago Corp. (UK) Ltd. in London. "There aren't a lot of sales. Most of the supplies will start to come out in October and November."

Energy

Brent crude oil for October delivery fell as much as 14 cents on London's International Petroleum Exchange, to \$12.85 a barrel. A military conflict between Iran and the Taliban militia, which controls much of Afghanistan, could disrupt oil supplies from the Persian Gulf, even as the Organization of Petroleum Producing Countries lags behind its production cut goals.

Precious metals

Gold dropped 0.8 percent, its second straight decline, after the Bank of Japan cut a key interest rate, boosting the dollar and revealing the central bank's concern about weakness in the world's second-largest economy.

"The implication in the short term is poor for gold," said Kamal Nagvi, an analyst at Macquarie Bank Ltd. in London.

"Theoretically the rate cut means that the economy is getting worse, so Japanese gold demand will potentially fall further."

In other markets, sugar dropped as much as 1.9%, coffee rose as much as 1.2%, and crude oil fell 1%.

The stronger dollar makes gold more expensive in Japan, just as the central bank is indicating it is concerned that domestic demand is weakening. Less consumption

and declining consumer confidence tends to hurt spending on luxury items, such as gold jewelry.

Gold for immediate delivery slipped \$2.50 to \$283.55 an ounce in London inter-bank trading. Last month, gold fell to a 19-year low of \$271.13 an ounce in London.

Gold has largely followed changes in the dollar-yen rate since mid-June, when the yen's descent to an eight-year low sparked concern demand would drop across Asia.

Japan is the world's seventh largest gold consumer, behind India, Italy, the US, China, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey.

Others

White sugar dropped as much as \$4.20, or 1.9 percent, its lowest since exchange records began, to \$218 a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures

US, Euro bonds surge as investors shun Japan

BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield 5.30% ▼ 0.6%

tion of yield levels and will give way to ever lower bond yields in safe haven markets," said Gerlof de Vrij, an analyst at ABN Amro in Amsterdam.

The implied rate on German

three-month futures contract for March 1999 delivery — a gauge for interest rates at the end of the first quarter — fell 6 basis points to 3.485%, matching the spot three-month Frankfurt interbank offered rate.

The implied rate on Italian three-month futures contract also fell 6 basis points to 3.51%.

This suggests investors expect the European Central Bank will set its benchmark interest rate near Germany's current benchmark rate, at 3.30%.

"The monetary easing by the Bank of Japan has given the market the sense that there might be a coordinated G-7 cut in interest

rates on the horizon," said Steven Mansell, a senior strategist at BNP Capital Markets.

The yield on the German two-year note fell 11 basis points to 3.46%, while the yield on the French two-year note fell 8 basis points to 3.58%.

European and US bonds had risen before the Bank of Japan announcement, as most European and Japanese stocks declined on expectation slowing global growth will trim company profits, and as electronic trading in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index September futures contracts indicated the Dow Jones Industrial Average would open lower. (Bloomberg)

| LAST | CHANGE |
|--------------------|--------|
| Tel Aviv 300.59 | -1.02% |
| Dow Jones 7,865.02 | -2.00% |
| FTSE 5311.3 | -0.60% |
| Nikkei 14,755.54 | -1.06% |
| Crude Oil \$12.88 | -0.11% |
| Gold \$284.35 | -1.70% |
| CRB 201.72 | -0.80% |

| LAST | CHANGE |
|----------------------|--------|
| US Dollar (1) | 1.4200 |
| British Pound (1) | 1.7325 |
| French Franc (1) | 1.7325 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 2.7800 |
| Swiss Franc (1) | 2.7800 |
| Mark (1) | 2.7800 |
| Italian Lira (1000) | 2.7800 |
| Spanish Peseta (100) | 2.7800 |

| LAST | CHANGE |
|----------------|---------|
| DJ Industrials | 7865.02 |
| DJ Transp. | 125.76 |
| DJ Util. | 378.29 |
| NYSE Comp. | 2479.19 |
| NYSE Transp. | 294.2 |
| NYSE Util. | 500.57 |
| S&P 100 | 492.48 |
| S&P Spot Index | 1008.2 |
| Israel Index | 300.59 |

| LAST | CHANGE |
|---------------------|--------|
| FTSE 100 | 5311.3 |
| Singapore 3000 | 275.25 |
| Hong Kong Hang Seng | 7955.4 |
| Shanghai 800 | 200.00 |
| Beijing 300 | 275.25 |
| Seoul 200 | 275.25 |
| Taipei 200 | 275.25 |
| Manila 200 | 275.25 |
| Colombo 200 | 275.25 |
| Jakarta 200 | 275.25 |
| Bandung 200 | 275.25 |
| Yogyakarta 200 | 275.25 |
| Surabaya 200 | 275.25 |
| Medan 200 | 275.25 |
| Samarang 200 | 275.25 |
| Semarang 200 | 275.25 |
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| Medan 200 | 275.25 |
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| Italian Lira (1000) | 2.7800 |
| Spanish Peseta (100) | 2.7800 |

| LAST | CHANGE |
|----------------------|--------|
| US Dollar (1) | 1.4200 |
| British Pound (1) | 1.7325 |
| French Franc (1) | 1.7325 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 2.7800 |
| Swiss Franc (1) | 2.7800 |
| Mark (1) | 2.7800 |
| Italian Lira (1000) | 2.7800 |
| Spanish Peseta (100) | 2.7800 |

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| LAST | CHANGE |
| --- | --- |

Yorke, Solskjaer star for Man. Utd.

LONDON (Reuters) — Manchester United, in turmoil over the \$1.0 billion takeover by media mogul Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB, returned to winning ways on the pitch last night with a 4-1 home defeat of Charlton Athletic.

Two goals each by Dwight Yorke, his first since his transfer from Aston Villa, and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer gave United their opening premier league victory of the season following two draws.

But while the fans were delighted with the win they showed their disenchantment with being part of BSkyB.

Many voiced their disapproval as they made their way into the Old Trafford stadium and chanted derogatory comments about United chairman Martin Edwards during the match.

Liverpool took over at the top of the table from Leeds United — 3-0 winners over Southampton on

Tuesday — with a comfortable 2-0 win over Coventry City. Patrick Bergner and Jamie Redknapp were their marksmen.

Aston Villa trail them in second place on goal difference after beating Rotherham United 1-0, Lee Hendrie converting a 62nd minute penalty.

Mark Kinsella shocked more than 50,000 United fans into silence by giving Charlton the lead in the 32nd minute with a deflected shot.

But their joy was short-lived. Solskjaer equalized with a dipping 20-meter shot in the 38th minute and Yorke headed home David Beckham's excellent free kick on the stroke of halftime.

Yorke flicked in Beckham's cross for his second in the 48th minute and Solskjaer headed his second after 63 minutes.

The goals were the first premier league newcomers Charlton had conceded this season.

Liverpool, 4-1 winners over

Newcastle in their last match, were never in trouble against Coventry after Berger scored in the 26th minute. The goal was set up by his captain Paul Ince.

Redknapp hit the second after 48 minutes.

David Platt, caretaker manager of Tottenham after Christian Gross was sacked at the weekend, watched his side come from a goal down to score a welcome 2-1 win over Blackburn Rovers.

A Les Ferdinand header in 26th minute cancelled out Kevin Gallacher's opener after 11 minutes and Danish international Allan Nielsen scored the three points for Spurs with a 51st minute strike.

Paul Gascoigne's 45th minute goal, earning his side a 1-0 away win over Leicester City, eased the pressure on his big-spending manager Bryan Robson.

The win was Middlesbrough's first in the league at the fourth attempt.

But there was little joy for new Newcastle manager Gullit to get excited about at Villa Park. His team held out until Stuart Pearce fouled Julian Joachim in the box. Hendrie made no mistake with the penalty.

The goalless stalemate between champions Arsenal and Chelsea at Stamford Bridge was an ill-tempered affair which saw six bookings and one sending-off.

Lee Dixon was dismissed in the 61st minute for a second bookable offence but 10-man Arsenal comfortably soaked up concerted pressure to earn a point.

West Ham must have felt they had killed off the challenge of Wimbledon at Upton Park by taking a three-goal lead in the opening 27 minutes through Ian Wright (2) and John Harrison.

But never say die Wimbledon bounced back to collect a remarkable 4-3 win. Their scorers were Marcus Gayle (2), Jason Euell and Efan Ekoku.

Premier league: Aston Villa 1, Newcastle 0; Chelsea 0, Arsenal 0; Derby County 1, Sheffield Wednesday 0; Leicester City 0, Middlesbrough 1; Liverpool 2, Coventry City 0; Manchester United 4, Charlton Athletic 1; Tottenham Hotspur 2, Blackburn Rovers 1; West Ham United 3, Wimbledon 4.

| Premier league | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Liverpool | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| Aston Villa | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 10 |
| Leeds United | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| Wimbledon | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| Arsenal | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Derby County | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Nottingham Forest | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Manchester United | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 |
| Charlton Athletic | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| West Ham United | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| Middlesbrough | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Leicester City | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Blackburn Rovers | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Everton | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Coventry City | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Sheff Wed | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Chelsea | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Newcastle United | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Southampton | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 10 | 0 |

Division one: Swindon 4, Oxford 1; Division two: Millwall 2, Lincoln 0; Reading 1, Burnley 1; Division three: Scarborough 2, Shrewsbury 0.

Davis Cup team begins preparing for France

By HEATHER CHAIT

Israel's Davis Cup team leaves today for Uzbekistan where they will wrap up their training for the tie in two weeks' time against France at Ramat Hasharon.

The winner of the tie will clinch a spot in next year's 16-nation World Group.

Eyal Ran, Eyal Erlich, Amir Hadad and Harel Levy will travel with captain Shlomo Glickstein and coach Oded Yaakov to try their luck in the qualifying rounds of the ATP tournament in Tashkent which begins on September 15.

Noam Behr and Lior Mor, the

other members of the squad, will be practicing at home and at a tournament in Yugoslavia respectively.

The Israelis will be able to snatch a preview of their French opponents in Tashkent since Cedric Pioline and Nicolas Escude will be there too.

Meanwhile, the president of the French Tennis Association, Christian Bines, a member of the Committee of Management of the ITF, will head the French delegation to the tie.

Tickets for the matches are now on sale with prices ranging from NIS 100 a day for an VIP box to adults and NIS 25 for children.

Stockholm refuses to host international soccer

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) — No more international club matches will be held in Stockholm because of the high police costs of manning them, Swedish Football Association president Lars-Ake Lagrell said yesterday.

"We give up. We have not made a formal decision yet but the mood in Stockholm is easy to interpret," Lagrell told the daily newspaper Svenska Dagbladet.

"It's a matter of politics and internal fights in the police core about money. There is a lot of grumbling." Policing of last May's European Cup Winners' Cup final in Stockholm in which Chelsea beat VfB Stuttgart 1-0 cost police an estimated five million Swedish crowns (\$631,200), with about 1,000 police on duty.

About 13,000 British and 4,000 German fans descended on the Swedish capital for the Chelsea-Stuttgart match. Eight people were arrested in incidents before and after the game.

Police spokesman Claes Cassel said it was a cultural loss for Stockholm that international club matches would no longer be played

in the city.

"But as police I think it is sad that we get rid of some of these problems," he said.

The Swedish FA will in future stage international club matches in Gothenburg on the west coast.

However, major internationals, such as last Saturday's European championship qualifier between Sweden and England, will still be held in Stockholm.

About 15 British fans were arrested at the weekend for drunkenness and various other offences, including rioting and assault, after England's 2-1 defeat.

A crowd of England supporters smashed windows at Stockholm's 36,000-seat Rasunda Stadium after the game and threw tables and chairs through the smashed windows.

A Swedish FA spokesman told the daily Dagens Nyheter that it planned to invoice the English FA for the damage, which amounted to about 200,000 crowns.

The costs of manning Saturday's game with about 600 police was estimated at 1.5 million Swedish crowns.

RECORD

Continued from Page 1

McGwire was so excited that he skipped past first base as he rounded the bag and had to return to touch it, urged back by coach Dave McKay.

"I sort of missed one big thing — to touch first base," he said. "I hope I didn't act foolish, but this is history."

Every Cubs infielder shook McGwire's hand on his trip home. McGwire pointed at the Chicago dugout in tribute and saluted the fans.

McGwire was mobbed by his teammates at home as Cardinals relievers ran in from the bullpen. He lifted his 10-year-old batboy son Man high into the air. McGwire then ran into the seats to hug the family of Maris.

"I couldn't be happier for him," Roger Maris Jr. said.

Before the game, McGwire clutched the bat that Maris used to hit his 61st and rubbed it against his chest and said: "Roger, I hope you're with me tonight."

Cubs right fielder Sammy Sosa, who has 58 home runs and also held

Maris' bat, ran in after the home run to hug McGwire as the sellout crowd of 43,688 roared.

None of the fans, however, wound up with the lucky ball. The souvenir, which had attracted offers of \$1 million, went over the fence but short of the stands and was retrieved by grounds crew worker Tim Fomeris.

Fomeris, 22, picked it up and later gave it to McGwire in a postgame party on the field. McGwire also got a '62 red Corvette from the Cardinals in the postgame ceremony, and he and his son took a slow victory drive around the field. Plus there was a call from US President Bill Clinton.

Starting today, the historic ball will be on display at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, along with McGwire's bat and jersey.

McGwire appeared anxious in grounding out on a 3-0 pitch in the first inning. His homer came in his second at-bat on the first pitch, an 88 mph (142 kph) fastball. He walked in his final two plate appearances in the Cardinals' 6-3 victory.

McGWIRE

Continued from Page 20

But most of the time, fans didn't have to wait too long for McGwire to go deep. When he tied Maris on Monday, his season pace was one home run for every seven at-bats.

All year, McGwire downplayed his chances of breaking baseball's most cherished record — until he got to home run No. 50.

When he got there ridiculously early, on August 20, even McGwire had trouble not getting giddy about the whole thing. As he rounded the bases at Shea Stadium after connecting off the Mets' Willie Blair, the only man to have three consecutive 30-home run seasons pumped his fists and grinned.

Teammates along for the historic ride grinned, too. McGwire's chase has reduced the Cardinals' sub-.500 season to a mere footnote.

"The guy is doing it all by himself," La Russa said. "He's got tremendous support, but he doesn't need it. He's a self-contained phenomenon."

Not even a healthy dose of controversy over his use of androstenedione, a supplement that boosts testosterone levels for brief periods, could make much of a dent in McGwire's mystique. As La Russa, teammates and opponents came to his defense, noting that he still had to make contact, McGwire stepped up his already prodigious pace.

So where does all this wind up? Now that he has this record, does he hold it? Does he break it again in 1999? "I think McGwire is going to chase it next year," Canseco said. "He is incredible. No one can even stand in his shoes — not Babe Ruth, not any one."

Davenport beats Coetzer to reach semis

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Lindsay Davenport, riding a hot summer surge in this hardcourt season, advanced to the semifinals of the US Open yesterday as she swept aside 13th seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa 6-0 6-4 on another wind-blown day at Flushing Meadow.

Conditions were brutal as rain came and went, causing two brief delays, but Davenport's big ground-stroking game was consistently superior on wind-swept Arthur Ashe Stadium court.

The second-seeded Davenport, winner of three consecutive tournaments this summer during the run-up to the Open, will play the winner of last night's quarterfinal between fourth-seeded French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and fifth seed Venus Williams, last year's runner-up.

The other women's semifinal is already set, with top-seeded defending champion Martina Hingis to face Wimbledon champion Jana Novotna, the third seed.

The diminutive Coetzer, who at 5-foot-2 (1.57 m) stands a foot shorter than Davenport, seemed to have more trouble coping with the blustery conditions as she committed 38 unforced errors as winds gusted to 30 miles per hour.

Davenport kept alive her campaign for a first Grand Slam title and also a shot at capturing the world No. 1 ranking. Should she win the tournament against anyone other than Hingis, she would claim the top ranking.

On Tuesday, defending champion Hingis found the game that brought her four Grand Slam titles by the age of 17 in time to down sentimental favorite Monica Seles and earn a return trip to the semifinals.

The top-seeded world No. 1 still had not stopped smiling long after her exciting 6-4 6-4 victory over the two-time former champion ended something of a crisis of confidence for the Swiss sensation.

"I'm happy I still can play tennis



GUNNING FOR No. 1 — Lindsay Davenport beat Amanda Coetzer yesterday on her way to the US Open semi finals as she attempts to dethrone Martina Hingis as world No. 1.

out there. I just felt very good out there tonight," said Hingis, who is without a title since the Italian Open in early May and had not been pleased with her play in the run to the quarterfinals.

The late night match was a replay of the French Open final and the result was the same, a straight-sets victory for 10th seed

Carlos Moya over close friend and fellow Spaniard Alex Corretja, the seventh seed.

Playing in front of a few hardcore fans who remained after the Hingis-Seles match, Moya posted a hard-fought 7-6 7-5 6-3 victory in two hours, 41 minutes to nail down the final men's quarter-final berth.

Moya, who needed five sets in his two previous wins, next meets unseeded Magnus Larsson, one of three Swedes to make it to the final eight, along with Jonas Bjorkman and Thomas Johansson.

Bjorkman, the 12th seed and a semifinalist last year, earned a crack at defending champion

Patrick Rafter with a 6-4 2-6 6-2 6-2 win over Dutchman Jan Siemerink.

Unseeded Johansson will next meet big-serving Australian Mark Philippoussis, who upset 13th-seeded Briton Tim Henman 7-5 0-6 6-4 6-1. Larsson bounced a fellow unseeded player, German Oliver Gross, 6-4 7-5 5-7 6-2.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 20

Phillies 16, Mets 4

Rico Brogna, Kevin Seifick and Bobby Estalella each homered twice and Marlon Anderson added a homer in his first major league at-bat as host Philadelphia set a club record with seven home runs off four pitchers. It was the most runs for Philadelphia since 1995 and the most home runs off the Mets since July 1967, at Chicago.

Astros 13, Reds 7

Jeff Bagwell hit his first career

grand slam and tied a career high with six RBIs as Houston (92-53) tied Atlanta for the NL's best record.

Expos 6, Braves 3

Greg Maddux (17-8) struggled for the sixth straight start, allowing all six runs — five earned — and six hits in seven innings as Montreal won at home. Maddux has given up 24 earned runs in his last six starts, a span of 39 innings, and his ERA has climbed from 1.53 to 2.20.

Pirates 8, Brewers 7

Jose Guillen blooped a two-run, two-out single off Eric Plunk (0-2)

into right field in the eighth inning as Pittsburgh rallied from a 7-0 deficit to win at home.

Jerome Burnitz and Marquis Grissom homered as the Brewers built their lead. Mike Williams (4-2) pitched a scoreless eighth for the victory and Rich Loeiselle finished for his 18th save.

Rockies 11, Marlins 10

Vinny Castilla matched a career high with six RBIs, including the game-winning two-run single in

the bottom of the ninth.

Giants 5, Padres 1

Marvin Benard hit a leadoff homer and went 4-for-4, and J.T. Snow drove in two runs as host San Francisco won for the 12th time in 17 games.

Dodgers 6, Diamondbacks 5 (11) Raul Mondesi tied it with a three-run home run in the eighth inning and Eric Karros drove in the winning run with a sacrifice fly in the top of the 11th.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Yankees 3, Red Sox 2

Visiting New York clinched a tie for the AL East title as David Cone became baseball's first 19-game winner, outdueling Pedro Martinez.

Through seven innings, it was tied 1-1 as Cone (19-5) had allowed just two hits and Martinez (18-5) only three. At that point, Cone had 11 strikeouts and Martinez eight.

But Martinez' control deserted him in the eighth, when the Yankees scored twice and went on to break a three-game losing streak with their first win since getting their 100th last Friday night.

Cone walked none, faced one batter over the minimum and allowed just three balls out of the infield.

Rangers 7, Royals 6

Ivan Rodriguez's two-run single with one out in the ninth inning

lifted host Texas to its 38th comeback victory.

White Sox 12, Tigers 6

Jeff Abbott hit two home runs, Robin Ventura hit a two-run shot and Wil Cordero added a solo shot to lead Chicago to a home win.

Twins 5, Angels 0

Brad Radtke (11-3) allowed six hits in seven innings and struck out 12 to win for the first time since July 28. He had been 1-7 since the All-Star break. Terry Steinbach and Paul Molitor homered for visiting Minnesota.

Devil Rays 10, Mariners 0

Wilson Alvarez (6-3) allowed two hits in seven innings, combining with two relievers on a two-hitter. Ken Griffey Jr. was 0-for-3 with a walk.

Orioles 5, Athletics 2

Doug Johns and three relievers combined for a seven-hitter and Brady Anderson's single in the fifth scored the go-ahead run.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| Atlanta | 92 | 53 | .634 | — |
| New York | 90 | 55 | .617 | 12 |
| Philadelphia | 68 | 76 | .472 | 23 1/2 |
| Montreal | 56 | 89 | .386 | 36 |
| Central Division | 48 | 97 | .331 | 44 |

Central Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|------------|----|----|------|--------|
| St. Louis | 92 | 53 | .634 | — |
| Chicago | 80 | 65 | .552 | 12 |
| St. Louis | 71 | 74 | .493 | 20 1/2 |
| Pittsburgh | 49 | 76 | .393 | 23 |
| Cincinnati | 64 | 79 | .445 | 26 |

West Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|--------|
| San Diego | 91 | 54 | .628 | — |
| San Francisco | 79 | 66 | .545 | 12 |
| Los Angeles | 73 | 72 | .503 | 18 |
| Colorado | 68 | 78 | .464 | 23 1/2 |
| Arizona | 58 | 88 | .397 | 33 1/2 |

WILD CARD STANDINGS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|----|
| Chicago | 80 | 65 | .552 | — |
| New York | 80 | 65 | .552 | — |
| San Francisco | 79 | 66 | .545 | 1 |

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|-----------|-----|----|------|--------|
| Yankees | 101 | 41 | .711 | — |
| Boston | 82 | 61 | .573 | 19 1/2 |
| Toronto | 78 | 64 | .542 | 24 |
| Baltimore | 72 | 72 | .500 | 30 |
| Tampa Bay | 54 | 87 | .382 | 45 1/2 |

Central Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|-------------|----|----|------|--------|
| Cleveland | 79 | 64 | .552 | — |
| Chicago | 68 | 76 | .472 | 10 1/2 |
| Kansas City | 68 | 76 | .472 | 10 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 65 | 79 | .451 | 14 1/2 |
| Detroit | 54 | 91 | .372 | 26 |

West Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---------|----|----|------|--------|
| Anheim | 77 | 65 | .549 | — |
| Texas | 77 | 67 | .535 | 2 |
| Oakland | 66 | 78 | .458 | 13 |
| Seattle | 65 | 78 | .453 | 13 1/2 |

Y-clinched playoff berth

